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Landscape Observatories in Europe from the ELC Recommendations to Local Initiatives. Rationale and Issues of the Seminar

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I QUADERNI DI CAREGGI

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Seminar on Landscape Observatories in Europe from the ELC Recommendations to Local Initiatives

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A.L. Pitulicu, *Old Beer Factory*, winner section Neglected Landscapes, Fourth Edition People's Landscapes

Introduction

Rationale and Issues of the Seminar

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Having regard to Recommendation CM/Rec (2008)3 on the Guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, "landscape observatories, centers and institutes" are one of the main instruments for the implementation of landscape policies (II.3.3). They facilitate the collection and exchange of information and study protocols between states and local communities.

Some national and regional bodies have established institutional centers for landscape observation, which show a varied panorama of missions and relationships within the activities of spatial and landscape planning. In Italy, for example, Regional Observatories, which should be established in each region and at the national level by law, carry out various activities including the collection of geographical data, accompanying the landscape planning process, and, rarely, participation experiments. In Spain too, the Regional Observatories are actively involved in the elaboration of landscape planning instruments, and some of them are working for many years, capturing an international audience.

At the same time, a huge number of "spontaneous" initiatives from civil society lead to local organizations carrying out awareness raising, participation, and, sometimes, elaborating projects and leading concrete actions on the territory. This second kind of observatory shows a strong tendency towards creating networks, at the regional or international level. This issue of the *Quaderni di Careggi* presents an international overview of the activities of landscape observatories, a reflection on their mission and effectiveness with regard to the ELC objectives, and a reflection on the relationships between the different subjects, thanks to the participation of institutional bodies, public officials as well as researchers and representatives of civil society. It reflects part of the scientific contributions which will be presented during the V Careggi Seminar (Florence, 27-28th June 2013), but other papers could be added in the future. The participation of UNISCAPE, RECEP-ENELC and CIVILSCAPE is one first result of the Seminar, as they represent the privileged landscape observatories at the European level.

The Quaderni issue is articulated in sections, reflecting the main potential areas of the activities of the landscape observatories:

- Awareness, education and participation
- Landscape Observatories Networks
- Documentation, assessment and monitoring
- Regional landscape observatories in Italy workshop
- Relationships with landscape and spatial policies, planning, and design

The last section, Research in progress, as usual in the Careggi Seminars' tradition, is devoted to contributions by young researchers. From their perspective, critique, current trends and positive ideas would be found by the reader. During the final conclusions of the Seminar, the Florence Charter for the Establishment of the Coordination of European Landscape Observatories was drafted and signed by many participants under the auspices of UNISCAPE, CIVILSCAPE and RECEP-ENELC (Document in Appendix). The UNISCAPE representatives of the Università di Torino and Politecnico di Torino (Italy) have been encharged to manage the organizational aspects regarding the establishment of the Network of the European Landscape Observa-

tories in order to coordinate future initiatives, exchange experiences and promote scientific research. Therefore creating a **"network of European Landscape Observatories"** is the mission to be accomplished. The next step is integrating the activities of the three international networks by gathering universities, civil society and public authorities in support of the ELC.

Greetings by the Dean of the University of Turin

Ezio Pelizzetti
Dean of the University of Turin

Dear Colleagues,

I regret to not be there with you in these two days of study and debate on "Landscape Observatories in Europe from the ELC Recommendations to the Local Initiatives". During my training as a researcher, expert and University professor in Analytical Chemistry the issues, our days more actual and urgent, related to the environment, its protection, sustainability and renewable energy sources have have been particularly relevant.

I take the occasion to express my sincere appreciation towards all of you that with various approaches and levels work and collaborate in implementing the European Landscape Convention. I wish you all a fruitful work and I am confident that these two days will be rich of suggestions and ideas for new collaborations and insights.

A.M. Ciubut, *Looks can be deceiving*, Fourth Edition Peoples Landscapes

Landscape Observatories in Europe: From ELC Recommendations to Local Initiatives

Roberto Gambino
Politecnico di Torino and UNISCAPE Executive Board Representative

1. A Changing Context

The adoption of the ELC (European Landscape Convention) in 2000 has, by general consensus, indicated a profound change of concepts, paradigms and political and cultural attitudes which in modern times and especially in the last half a century characterised the relationship between society and landscape. Hence the need, already felt during the drafting of the Convention, to promote debates, scientific research and theoretical reflections to explain and justify the proposed changes. For this reason, the Convention places emphasis on awareness-raising and the promotion of education and training which should pave the way for more developed landscape policies. This was the perspective found in the initiatives launched even before the signing of the Convention for the establishment of a European landscape observatory (OCEP), which then resulted in the creation of three complementary organisations: the European Network of Local and Regional Authorities (RECEP-ENELC), the network of universities (UNISCAPE), and the network of non-governmental organisations (CIVILSCAPE); as well as the establishment, in May 2008, of the Scientific Committee, provided for by the Statute of RECEP-ENELC. Despite or perhaps thanks to the extraordinary developments at the international level, in the scientific research and publications on various aspects related to the landscape and its role in a changing society, the "landscape question" poses an extreme variety of positions and interpretative models. In this sense, the vast potential of scientific, political and cultural analysis, begun in 2000 by the ELC, still seems largely untapped.

These considerations may explain why the Landscape Observatories (from the three networks mentioned above) cannot but assume a decisively critical role with respect to the way in which the activities concerning the principles and guidelines established by the ELC should be carried out. This does not imply that the Observatories should lose their natural function of documenting, observing and describing the experiences relative to the ELC; but it does imply that the experiences observed can go towards reflecting on those principles and guidelines, with a view to more efficient and fairer landscape policies. This need was already clearly present in the documents prior to 2000, which apart from pursuing the documentation of experiences, were aimed at stimulating scientific cooperation and promoting cultural and educational activities to that end. In the numerous observatories established or in the process of being established in various countries, such an aim is obviously articulated according to the needs of protection and safeguarding or of promotion and valorisation specific to the territories in question. Thus, in the case of Catalonia (2004 Observatory) which has in many ways influenced several other experiences, the observatory's tasks can be summarised as follows:

-Identification of the means of implementation *for* landscape policies;
-Identification of the criteria and actions to be carried out *on* the landscape;
-Analysis and knowledge *of* the landscape;
-Awareness and education of the population;
-Scientific collaboration, studies, benchmarking, monitoring of experiences, training and information.

However, in general, it should be noted that the title of 'Observatory' now evokes a very heterogeneous set of tools, institutions, places of meeting or simple initiatives, with little or no coordination and recognition despite the research carried out by, for example, the University IUAV of Venice, the University of Florence, the Polytechnic and the University of Turin (Inter-University Department Territory). In an attempt at promoting unity, Landscape Observatories could be seen

as connection knots between landscape policies pursued by the competent institutions at various decision-making levels and other policies relating to the territories of competence (agricultural, urban, infrastructural, etc.). Such a connection must ensure, in the context of the development of the European territory, the pursuit of the objectives set down by the ELC:

1) Expansion of landscape policies, in terms of protection and enhancement of the entire territory, beyond the constraints and safeguards traditionally applied to single 'landscape properties' or goods. It implies the definition *of landscape as an area as perceived .by people forming a whole, whose natural and cultural components are taken together, not separately*.(art.1 ELC).
2) The strengthening of landscape policies, in terms of knowledge and awareness of structural factors, public interests and values at stake, multi-sectoral strategies, and more efficient instruments and guidelines.
3) Effective participation of the stakeholders and local communities, based on their expectations and perceptions; recognition of the values and issues; design of intervention strategies, social control and the public regulation of processes.

2. Mission of the Observatories

It is in relation to these objectives that the mission of the Observatories is to be defined. In the logic of the ELC, the Observatories have a two-fold mission:

on the one hand, they constitute *instruments of defence* and local, regional and national enhancement, both with specific reference to landscape policies, and to the policies of growth and consolidation of identity of the different territorial systems, from the local to the national level;

on the other hand, they are configured as *knots of networks* that branch off at different scales, maintaining a territorial anchorage and a "system"functioning, in order to promote the protection, management and planning of landscapes and the organisation of European cooperation in this field (Art. 3, ELC).

In the Statute of ENELC, approved in 2007, there looms a significant expansion of the tasks of the Observatories: In addition to fostering a deeper insight, dissemination and expansion of technical and scientific knowledge, they should also assist stakeholders in decision-making processes related to landscape in the individual States, European institutions and other relevant international organisations; as well as promoting cooperation with other local bodies, including bodies of management of protected areas, non-governmental organisations, universities and research centres, and public and private agencies engaged in activities related to the landscape. The reference to protected areas is not surprising, in light of the fact that it was a great National Park –that of Cilento in South Italy – which launched firstly the initiative of the European Observatory. However, expansion is significant when we consider the difficulty (experienced in Italy with the Code of Cultural Heritage and Landscape, 2004) in co-ordinating the landscape legislation with that of parks and protected areas. More generally, the above-mentioned Statute opens a window on a tricky and not yet fully explored issue – that of the relationship between the Observatories (always starting from the three networks established by the Council of Europe) with the local context, in all its historical, cultural, economic, ecological dimensions, as well as with its political and legal system..

This consideration forces us to confront the difficulties, risks and conflicts involved in the 'territorialisation' of landscape, its use as a tool for the overall qualification of the territory, as indicated by the ELC. Each signatory state is in fact committed (Art 5d) *"to integrate landscape into its regional and town planning policies and in its cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape*." From this point of view, the Observatory should have as its objective not so much or not only the landscapes of the territory in question, but their relationship with contextual dynamics. This is a somewhat ambitious objective, but unavoidable if we wish to influence such dynamics with an effective regulation of the processes of change. And all too evident if we wish, for example, to halt the devastation or irreversible loss of agricultural landscapes, in which case action is needed on the new CAP (Common Agricultural Policy); or to halt the progressive degradation of 'historic urban landscapes' (following the UNESCO Recommendation of 2012) we must contain the consumption of agricultural and natural land for non-agricultural use and the indiscriminate dispersion of settlements and housing. It implies to question, also, the consolidate mechanisms of the ground rent.

In an attempt to understand the structural roots of landscape degradation, the Observatories are called to take into consideration the emerging issues of territorial policy, such as those concerning:

a) sustainability (environmental, social and economic), which since the beginning of the ELC has been closely associated with landscape policies, not without ambiguities inherent in the concept same of sustainability and its association with the concept of development;
b) cultural heritage, which in the Italian tradition (confirmed at the constitutional level – Art. 9 – and reaffirmed in the 2004 Code) and in the tradition of other countries includes landscape values with a double meaning: on the one hand, 'common goods' which qualify the living spaces of local communities and define their identity; on the other, universal values with which the local context (specific units or areas of landscape) represent themselves to the global arena, typically but not exclusively in the World Heritage Sites recognised by UNESCO;
c) natural heritage, which in Europe is inseparable from cultural heritage and which has historically been defined through the designation of 'protected areas' classified by IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature, 1994), areas conceived as 'islands of excellence' which need to be reconsidered, according to the ELC, as an integral part of the landscape value of the whole territory;
d) territorial government, which in Europe means systems including institutional apparatus, legal frameworks, administrative guidelines for planning, public regulation and control of processes of change; systems giving place to various forms of 'governance', largely exceeding the specific needs of landscape policies, but interacting with them, to ensure the effective participation of communities in 'territorial projects'.

3. A Retrospective Look

To better understand the role of the Observatories in contemporary territories, it is useful to briefly recall the discussions and debates that accompanied their genesis. The reasons for advising the establishment of 'observatories' with the aim of implementing the ELC had already been recognised in the debates preceding the adoption of the Convention in Florence in 2000. Immediately after its opening for signature, various initiatives emerged in the countries involved in the Convention. Particular interest was shown by the initiative launched in 2001 by the National Park of Cilento and Vallo di Diano (Campania), which, alongside the creation of a landscape action plan, pointed to the establishment of a European observatory for the implementation of the Convention in parks and protected areas. In 2002, the initiative, sponsored by the Council of Europe (Congress of Local and Regional Authorities) and supported by the Region of Campania, was jointly promoted by the European Centre for documentation on the planning of natural parks, the Italian Federation of Parks and Natural Reserves and EUROPARC. A technical working group was formed, hosted by the Region of Campania and coordinated by Prof. Gambino, who, in

close contact with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe (in the person of R. Priore), produced a vast array of documents useful for the investigation of the initiative.

From 2003, the OELC project (Observatory on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention) was officially presented on various occasions and raised in discussions in the Commission for sustainable development of the Council of Europe. In 2004, it was presented and discussed in the draft of the Statute, but the Observatory was defined with the new acronym of RECEP-ENELC. With this title, the Observatory was officially established in Strasbourg on the 30/5/2006, under the aegis of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. It was established by regions, municipalities and other types of European local authorities, following the activities set out in the preparatory works with its headquarters in Strasbourg and Florence.

In the course of the debates surrounding the establishment of RECEP-ENELC, the opportunity was identified for establishing a network for scientific research and monitoring carried out by universities and research centres in Europe. Thus, in January 2008, the Network of Universities for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention – UNISCAPE – was established with its headquarters in Florence. At the same time, considering the importance that the ELC accords the role of civil society in landscape policies, in February 2008, the International Network for Non-Governmental Organizations for the Safeguarding of the Quality of Landscape in Europe – CIVILSCAPE – was established. The creation of the network completed the initiatives surrounding the Landscape Manifesto in the Netherlands. CIVILSCAPE also has its headquarters in Florence.

The initiatives of the Landscape Observatories find support in the Recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of the CoE, 6/2/2008 (Guidelines for the implementation of the ELC. Annex 1, paragraph 10) which recognise the need for continuous observation and exchange of information concerning the forces on the landscape, and thus the opportunity of creating specific Observatories as part of a broader system of observation. This implies a range of activities, from descriptions to the exchange of information, to the development of indicators for evaluation, to the development of future scenarios. Since 2008, therefore, the functions of "observatory" of the ELC, which the above initiatives of the early 2000s intended to be carried out by a single European body, are divided into three distinct networks, to promote the implementation of the ELC with respect to three different areas of competence: RECEP-ENELC for local and regional authorities, UNISCAPE for universities, and CIVILSCAPE for non-governmental organisations.

The three networks, which have their headquarters at the Villa Medicea of Florence, have assumed by various means a coordination role with respect to the inter-governmental cooperating activities carried out by the Council of Europe in the implementation of the ELC, as well as the initiatives carried out at national, regional and local levels that have found correspondance in the establishment of the Landscape Observatories. Particular mention must be made of the Landscape Observatory of Catalonia, which since the initial years after the Convention's adoption, together with other regional and local Observatories of European countries, has provided great impetus to the guidance and monitoring of the implementation process of the ELC.

4. Perspectives and open questions

In the light of past experience, it is time to consider the prospects for the development and qualification of the Landscape Observatories, in accordance with the tasks and objectives assigned to them. The first requirement that arises concerns the *coordination* of initiatives, experiences and activities underway or planned, not least to ensure that they can stimulate and nurture ideas and shared reflections, and be useful for policies of innovation for the landscape. This requirement currently clashes with the difficulties resulting from the extreme diversification of experiences, from the spontaneity and dispersion of initiatives, which also hinder mutual knowledge, but which reflect, at least in part, the inherent meaning of landscape, the irreducible subjectivity of the landscape experience, and the indispensable role of local options in landscape protection. For this reason, the attempt to "create a network" of activities carried out by observatories can only start from the coordination of the three networks already established at the European level: RECEP-ENELC, UNISCAPE and CIVILSCAPE. A move in this direction could consist of a concerted redefinition of the tools and tasks of each of them, with more explicit and direct references to the relevant social targets: local and regional authorities, universities and non-governmental organisations. In this way, we could also better define the role of the Scientific Committee, to be reconsidered as a transverse instrument at the service of all three networks.

Co-ordinated action of the three networks may also be able to respond more effectively to the needs of pan-European policies that significantly affect cultural heritage and the landscape, but which are beyond the powers of the Council of Europe, and to invest instead in those of the European Union (EU), such as agricultural policy or mobility and transport. A more direct relationship with organs of the EU (reinforced if possible by the EU's accession to the ELC) is particularly opportune in order to take into account the possible impact that community policies have on regional and local landscape policies. A field of action of great interest to the network of observatories is that of the relationship between landscape policies implemented by the ELC and those of parks and protected areas and especially those of "Natura 2000" sites (Sites of Community Interest and Special Areas of Protection) which cover a substantial part of the EU territory, in which therefore landscape protection intersects with ecological protection.

A second need concerns the role that the Observatories can play in support of policy intervention, as instruments of knowledge, assessment and social communication. Since the establishment of the Observatory of Catalonia, there has been an emphasis on the need to configure the Observatories as *meeting places*, where expert knowledge intersects with ordinary and common knowledge, gathering scientists, technicians, administrators and members of civil society. If the activities of evaluating and monitoring and critical knowledge are part of a rational context (such as for example the one proposed by the EEA, the DPSIR), the problem of comparison becomes complex. In particular, 'data' should not be considered as totally neutral and objective, such as the data provided by the indicators of the various 'sectors' (biological quality, environmental quality, quality of urban life, tangible and intangible culture, aesthetics, institutional action, education, social communication).

This reiterates the need, already mentioned, that the Observatory take into consideration the whole territory concerned, the plurality of territorial, urban, environmental and cultural issues occurring there, and the social processes through which local communities react to such problems regardless of administrative boundaries and areas of competence of the institutions concerned.

The scope cannot be reduced to a few areas of special interest, somehow detached from their context, or to areas of "excellence", "natural beauty" or "natural monuments" which for a long time were the focus of traditional action of protection. Not in the sense that the action of protection should give up defending the hallmarks of public heritage and save the unsavable, combating the risks and emergence of degradation, but in the sense that the new focus on the relationship between cultural heritage and territory cannot avoid questioning the traditional logic of "protected areas", in particular the criteria for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage List and in

the IUCN classification for the conservation of nature. It is enough to think of the requirement of 'Outstanding Universal Value', and of the category of "protected landscapes", which in Europe cover over half of the total protected surface area. It is within this setting that the highly symbolic European Landscape Award, established by ELC, can also be found.

The central challenge that the ELC has launched concerns, in essence, an attempt to develop landscape policies effectively extended to the territory as a whole and not – mainly or exclusively – to individual objects of particular prestige, as single cultural or landscape goods. This shift from *single properties to large landscapes* applies in all European countries, albeit in different ways due to the various apparatus of protection and consolidated administration cultures in the countries and regions. Typically, in the case of Italy, the "Code of cultural goods" (2004) outlines a two-pronged approach:

- on the one hand, it extends the protection of landscape properties, identified by agreement between the Regions and the Ministry of Heritage and Cultural Activities (taking into account studies, analyses and proposals of national and regional Observatories).
- on the other, conservation and management policies are articulated through territorial planning and with reference to *landscapes***,** as areas so defined by ELC**.** Planning activities (in particular, 'landscape' planning) therefore assume autonomous relevance, also for the purposes of the Observatories, regardless of the presence in these areas of 'landscape goods' of specific value.

In this second direction, landscape policies are 'territorialised' (with reference to the so defined areas, crossing the plurality of 'environmental' policies (water management, biodiversity protection, energy policies, etc.). Above all, however, they:

- claim a *holistic* consideration that defies the rationality of single sector of the public intervention,
- invest largely in the *intangible* aspects, such as those typically aesthetic or anthropological-cultural.

In this sense, the Observatories can play a central role in the definition of quality objectives to pursue in each landscape, "*taking into account the particular values assigned to them by the interested parties and the population concerned*" (Art. 6, ELC). Here, it is crucial to distinguish between "*quality*" (somehow measurable and rationally comparable) and "*value*" as the integrated expression of "subjective" appreciation and "common sense" of landscape.

After almost a decade of the first experiences of the Observatories, it is questionable whether and to what extent they provide feedback on the perspectives outlined here. The optimism reflected in landscape rhetoric, the declamatory emphasis that often pervades every public discourse on landscape, the illusions or hopes that many communities (in fact, especially the 'losers' marginalised by the current processes of economic and social development) attach to the image of landscape as a flag of civil redemption, should not obscure the critical analysis of delays, failures and inconsistencies that occur at all levels. At the regional and sub-regional levels, crucial questions concern the consistency and effectiveness of landscape planning, apparently a powerful weapon in the hands of the public administration (regional and state); but too often weakened or rendered ineffective by the detachment of the choices of protection from those inherent in the range of territorial policies impacting on the landscape: a detachment that threatens to condemn the Observatories to a merely "inventory" role. At the local level (individual municipalities, parks or sub-areas of specific interest such as the areas of eco-museums or UNESCO sites), one wonders whether and how the effervescence of the initiatives of the Observatories may recover the relationship with "place" that represents the promise of the more attractive enhancement of landscape, away from "garden" flattery or street furniture.

This last observation draws attention to the need for an "alliance" between the policies of landscape conservation and nature conservation, in particular the conservation of parks and natural protected areas, both inside and outside the city. In both cases, landscape is currently in danger. The risks and processes of environmental degradation related to global changes in climate and ecological – as well as economic and social – dynamics, meet the new imperatives of fairness required by the world's population, calling for new visions and new strategies of development. In the "new frontiers of conservation" that are emerging, the "western view" is increasingly being questioned. It may be interesting to recall that in the early 2000s the problem of extending the application of the ELC to the euro-Mediterranean context was raised, in particular the scope of the ARCO LATINO. More generally, the strong convergence between the philosophy of the ELC and the "new paradigms" for the establishment and management of "protected areas" launched by the IUCN World Congress in IUCN (Durban, 2003) has been highlighted (CED, 2008).

Hence the proposals in 2011 for the creation of a World Landscape Convention, to gather the new initiatives occurring at the international level. These proposals were obviously destined to clash due to insurmountable difficulties presented by the enormous socio-environmental, economic, political and cultural differences involved. However, against this dramatic background of change, the conservation, management and enjoyment of the landscape - in the broad meaning provided by the ELC - poses unavoidable instances of public regulation of the transformation processes that occur at all levels. The "right to landscape" implies that new citizenship rights should be protected by public authorities, against any limitation or incapacity. At the same time, public regulation, as required by the ELC, must strengthen the role of local communities in creating and managing their landscapes, ensuring their openness, accessibility and free enjoyment. In this double direction, the task of the networks of Observatories is of utmost importance.

R. Lingi, *Ziros Lake*, Third Edition Peoples Landscapes.

Awareness, education and participation

The Landscape Observatory of Scania, a New Means for Landscape Dialougue in Southern Sweden

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Abstract

This paper presents the Landscape Observatory of Scania in the southernmost part of Sweden (figure 2a), where land competition is intense. It was created in 2011 as a joint initiative between public bodies on county and municipality levels, an NGO and a university. The Landscape Observatory is currently organized as a web-based forum aimed at sustainable development and awareness-raising about landscape and its driving forces (figure 1). Further aims are; to foster a dialogue between different stakeholders in the landscape; contribute to a more conscious spatial planning; change the perspective of landscape as scenery to landscape as a system; develop the dialogue on urban and rural questions and strengthen the role of rural and peri-urban landscapes in planning. The paper highlights and categorizes important planning themes brought up by the Landscape Observatory, evaluates its progress, and outlines some directions for future development and research, all contributing to Sweden's implementation of the ELC.

Introduction

In the coming decades, society and landscape will face many challenges with the increasingly visible effects of climate change, a growing population, demographic transformations, increasing conversion from fossil fuels to renewable energy systems and with this, the rise of global prices for food, land and raw material (Fairclough and Sarlöv Herlin 2010). This leads to increasing pressure on land as well as conflicting land uses. Urban expansion on highly productive agricultural land that is needed for food, fuel and fibre is one of the most critical issues; however this problem has now started to gain attention by politicians and planners at the EU and national levels (EU 2012, Swedish Board of Agriculture 2012). In addition, conflicts between opposing environmental interests, such as in the wind power debate, show that landscape planning is facing many complex problems. Some of these problems offer few opportunities for people to gain understanding, to share their worries or to communicate about landscape issues (Sarlöv Herlin 2012). In May 2010, the European Landscape Convention (ELC) entered into force in Sweden. The ELC aims to promote the protection, planning and management of the landscape and to promote European cooperation on landscape issues. It is the first international agreement with a focus on "the landscape as a resource for multiple uses and as a prerequisite for sustainable development" (Council of Europe 2000). Landscape as a concept has thus been given official status in Sweden. Now it is expected that the ELC will influence planning and management of the physical environment in Sweden, in order to promote a landscape perspective, so that landscape values will be treated together, not separately. The

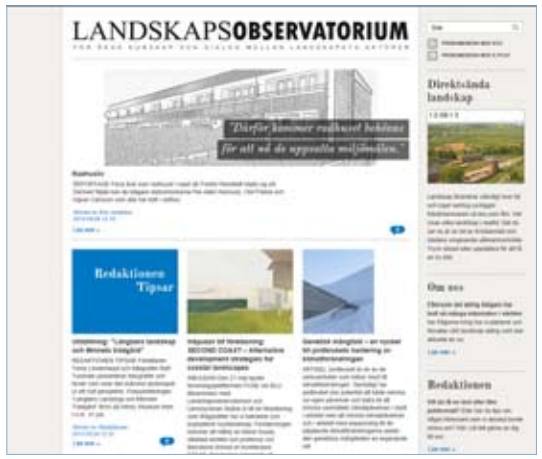

Fig. 1. The Landscape Observatory web forum

concern is to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. The ELC defines the word landscape as "an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and / or human factors" (Art. 1, ELC). Furthermore, the ELC assumes that landscape creates individual and social wellbeing and is a concern for all. Landscape is important for, inter alia, economy and jobs; for identity, nature and cultural heritage. Landscape is something everyone has in common, and therefore it can serve as a platform for democratic processes and even as a tool for integration and social enablement. The contracting parties to the European Landscape Convention have agreed, among a number of general and specific measures, to spread awareness about the landscape among their citizens, and to introduce methods of stakeholder participation and local influence in matters of landscape (Art. 6, ELC). This paper presents the Landscape Observatory of Scania in southernmost Sweden as a means to spread awareness about the landscape. It describes the underlying notions behind the observatory and some prospects for the future.

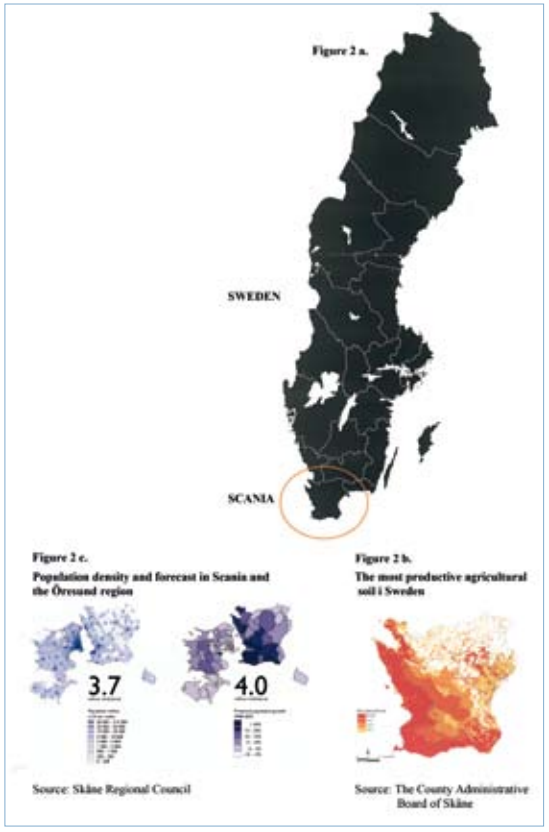

Fig. 2 (a, b, c). Productive agricultural soils in Sweden and high development pressure due to increasingli growing population.

Why a Landscape Observatory in Scania?

The peninsula of Scania (Skåne) in the southernmost county of Sweden is a cultural landscape with the highest proportion of agricultural land in Sweden (about 70 %). A variety of different landscape types are found here; fertile plains, undulating agricultural areas mixed with woodland groves, forests, diverse coastal areas, and also, the most densely populated area of Sweden adjacent to the Copenhagen region. Scania was under Danish governance until the Treaty of Roskilde in 1658. The Scania landscape is "an obvious and characteristic result of ongoing changes of various kinds; the interaction between a given society, its cultural preferences and potential and specific physical geographic conditions" (The County Administrative Board of Scania 2007). From a development perspective, the landscape is one of the county's biggest assets. However, the combination of the most productive agricultural soils in Sweden (figure 2 c) and a high development pressure due to an increasingly growing population (figure 2 b), is leading to an intense competition for land. A multiplicity of urban and rural services and functions need to be put into place; dealing with culture, recreation, housing, infrastructures, tourism, and for the benefits of ecosystems and species. When applying a landscape perspective in planning, i.e. approaching the landscape as a system, it is no longer feasible to distinguish between the processes taking place in the cities from those that occur

in the rural areas. The whole region is an area where values and assets meet - cultural, ecological, aesthetic, social and economic. Landscape is the arena where all individual policies eventually coincide and are realized. However, the links between town and country are not visible in the public consciousness. Today in Sweden there is a range of co-existing forums and networks working with either the city or the countryside. The landscape perspective is missing. Cooperation between urban and rural areas in planning, management and development is crucial for sustainable development.

The Landscape Observatory of Scania

The Landscape Observatory of Scania is the result of a partnership and cooperation between public, private, and academic bodies at regional, municipal, and local levels aiming to observe and take notice of landscape from the geographical viewpoint of Scania.
The small and the large, the local and the global, are in focus. The observatory aims to achieve a sustainable (socially, economically and environmentally) use and development of landscape resources by:

- increasing the dialogue between landscape stakeholders and increase awareness of the context and consequences;
- strengthening the conditions for a more conscious planning;
- changing the notion of landscape as a picture to landscape as a system;
- developing a conversation about the relationship between rural and urban;
- highlighting and strengthen the rural and the urban landscape's significance in land use planning;
- strengthening and raising-awareness of the landscape and the processes that drive the development of the landscape.

The landscape observatory is working through gathering knowledge and expertise on landscape development. It illustrates, through a landscape perspective, current events, projects, reports, research, analyses, statistics, trends and tendencies.
Furthermore it explores how the landscape is affected by political decisions; global and local trends etc. and communicates this through articles, videos, interviews, columns, features, visualizations and announcements.

Future prospects

At present, the future organization and possible new tasks for the Scanian observatory is under development.
A geographical broadening to the wider Öresund region has been discussed, as well as cooperation with other observatories in Europe. A seminar on the Catalan observatory by Prof. Maria Goula was arranged in May 2013. Further cooperation and common projects together with the FUSE program (Future Urban Sustainable Environments) at SLU (the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences) are also in progress. As a part of this, but also as a part of the university's long-term environmental monitoring program, Foma, one of the projects involved, deals with a Landscape Portal where methods for landscape assessment could be gathered and communicated with stakeholders.
Combining research with stakeholder communication, but also engaging in education of, for example, landscape architects will be essential aspects of the future observatory. In this work, inspiration from other Landscape Observatories around Europe and how these are organized is most valuable.

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Knowledge, Awareness and Sharing as Keywords for a Local Landscape Observatory: The Experience of Canale di Brenta (Northeast Italy)

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Starting from the approach proposed by the European Landscape Convention (ELC), which focuses on the active role of people and their awareness of landscape values, new perspectives are at present arising and opening up new operational opportunities, considering landscape not only as "object" (for research, spatial policies and planning as well as for educational and awareness raising activities), but also as "instrument", through which research, planning, education and awareness raising can be made (Luginbühl, 2004; Derioz, 2008; Ferrario, 2011; Guisepelli et al., 2013).
The perspective of landscape as a tool is a natural consequence of its "esprit" (Farinelli, 1991), that is, its conceptual ambiguity derived from being at the same time the thing and the image of the thing, the reality and the representation of reality, becoming a place of encounter between materiality and immateriality, an intermediary between the territory and the people who perceive that territory and who build representations of it (Castiglioni and Ferrario, 2007).
There is a variety of facets through which you can look at the landscape: the different disciplinary points of view, the differences between expert knowledge and that of lay people, the different reasons for interest in the landscape itself by different stakeholders and so on. This multiplicity becomes not so much an element of weakness (for example, when you cannot specify the "object" you are dealing with), but rather a strength, because this "instrument" is very useful and serves a range of objectives.
We can therefore use the landscape – for being a "means of communication" – on the one hand to "make" the territory "talk"; on the other hand, we can use the landscape to "talk about" and share territorial issues, from the perspective that French scholars call "médiation paysagère" (Fortin, 2007; Joliveau et al., 2008; Bigando et al., 2011).
The experience of the Landscape Observatories, especially at local level, can be framed in this context, moving around three key words, strongly connected to each other: *knowledge*, *awareness* and *sharing*.
Knowledge means on the one hand the implementation of studies on the issue of landscape in general and/or on specific local features, and the monitoring of landscape change, too; on the other hand it means the dissemination of these studies, through specific education and training projects. The perceptions and social representations should also be included in landscape analysis: the ELC, in fact, asks parties to take into ac-

count the values attributed by the people, which need to be understood through specific surveys. *Awareness* is instead linked to sensitisation activities, both addressing young people and the general public. The increased awareness mainly concerns the acknowledgment of a personal and community relationship with the landscape, and the values on which this relationship is based.
Sharing is finally referred to as the need to assign an "active role" to the population, both in specific phases of proposals and in decision-making – for improving the quality of the landscape – and in broader terms as the widespread growth of a sense of belonging to the landscape and responsibility towards it, at community level.
The three key words are closely intertwined, one reinforcing the other. As we will see in the presentation of the activities proposed in the specific case of the Brenta River Valley (Canale di Brenta), a single action promoted by the Observatory almost always takes root not in one of these references, but often in the all three.

The Landscape Observatory of Canale di Brenta is the first "local" observatory in the Veneto Region. The initiative was launched in June 2011 on the basis of a specific agreement between the Veneto Region (Bureau of Urban Planning and Landscape), Comunità Montana del Brenta, the University of Padua (Department of Geography) and the University of Venice IUAV.
The Observatory project in its start-up phase set itself the aim of promoting the knowledge, awareness and sharing, concerning policies and actions of protection and transformation of the landscape of the Brenta River Valley. The aim was thus to overcome the general idea of a landscape seen only as a bureaucratic constraint or as a postcard for tourists or as a matter solely for experts (planners, architects, public authorities).
Given the slogan that was chosen ("OP! Landscape is part of you"), the Observatory was strongly oriented towards promoting participation and involvement of the citizens in an inclusive manner, as an intermediary between civil society and public administrations. The activities developed between 18 June 2011 and the final event (Festival of Landscape) on 25-26 May 2012, concerning different fields:

- Animation and communication activities (advertising activities in local markets and festivals, info points, newsletters and a website updating www.osservatorio-canaledibrenta.com)
- Survey about the perception of landscape with almost 1,000 questionnaires collected
- Educational activities about the local landscape with the schools, with the training of 80 teachers and the direct involvement of over 1300 school children
- Advanced Training Course for those who work directly in the territory (35 participants: technicians, professionals)
- Focus groups and participation activities, with 4 panels for discussions on the main topics for the valley (environment, society, mobility, employment)
- Festival of landscape, with a symbolic human chain through the valley composed by the school children, a representative "relay" with the involvement of public administrators and local associations, a final conference and an exhibition.

At the end of the first experimental phase of activities, we can underline some important points for the evaluation of the project:

- Due to the significant articulation of activities, both in terms of the variety of initiatives and differentiation of the involved stakeholders, the Observatory has attempted to broaden its action, avoiding specialist visions and definitions such as those from sector-based or elitist approaches.
- The action of the Observatory has been characterised by the effort to be inclusive, and to engage the whole population (inside and outside the valley).
- Although the Observatory has been supported by strong external inputs (primarily academic institutions), during the first year of activities the involvement of local people and local authorities increased.
- With special attention to the multiscalarity of processes and participation, the local Observatory directed its action towards the enhancement of the local dimension, but without ever falling into the trap of being overly local in its approach: a strategic role in this direction was provided by the framework that supported the experimental phase, i.e. the cooperation among universities, local institutions and regional management. This allowed the strengthening of the identity of the valley and its centrality against marginalizing trends. The European Landscape Convention underlines that no landscape is "marginal" and has less dignity than others: the valley has acquired through the project a visibility that placed it at the centre of regional, national and also international attention.
- The landscape questions also revealed great potentiality for the implementation of new economic activities, not only or not so much for touristic goals, but also for innovative projects related to the heritage, in the context of sustainability.
- The participation and in some cases also the enthusiasm for the Observatory grew along the way. The main risk is not to live up to the community's expectations, appropriately stressed by constant awareness-raising activities: local observatories that are not perceived as "places of all", and that close themselves in bureaucratic structures are likely to lead to delegitimization.

On the contrary, the Observatory is expected to play a strategic role as incubator of active citizenship, through innovative forms of participation and rewarding projects.

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The 'Landscape Observatory of the Golfo Paradiso'. Educational Experiences and the Creation of a Database

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Based on the initiatives of the Fondazione G. B. Massone, in May 2010 the town of Recco saw the birth of the *Landscape Observatory of the Golfo Paradiso*. This initiative had two key purposes, the first of which was to collect memories of places with the help of various disciplinary approaches and sources, such as textual transcripts, visual, sound, literary and artistic depictions. In doing so, this initiative provides an understanding of the individual landscapes located within this coastal area between Bogliasco and Camogli and the interior mountain municipalities of Uscio and Avegno; this geographical transect also including information concerning the historical relations of exchanges with Genoa, the Ligurian-Emilia Romagna Apennines and the Po Valley. Secondly, this initiative activates a widespread network of citizen participation regarding issues such as the conservation and enhancement of the landscapes as collective heritage. The Observatory therefore aims to provide services to the local populations in the area, to universities, schools of all levels and administrations.

After an intervening period, the first step in the activation of the initiative was the opening of a course at the centre in November 2012. This course was an introduction to issues of protection, restoration and conservation of the architectural landscape and environmental heritage in the Tiguillo and Paradise Gulfs. Originally intended for young surveyors and first year architecture and civil engineering students, a number of individuals from higher-level education also participated. However, whilst this course demonstrated the significant cultural interest in issues it addressed, it also highlighted the need for further thought concerning the involvement of a wider range of subjects.

The most recent work has focused on the analysis of the landscape on the diachronic side of the Recco Valley (Genoa). In 1997, in-depth research of the a site in the Arbora Valley was conducted concerning the relationship between the local agro-forestry-pastoral management practices and local knowledge of the conservation of plant species that were considered to be culturally important and of high natural value, given their links with the production of 'typical' Ligurian cuisine. More than fifteen years after the students recorded the dynamics in the increase of forest growth based on the analysis of historical maps and aerial photographs, this growth was shown to have taken place at the expense of open areas/meadows, as demonstrated by investigations into an area of land between Megli and Faveto. The process of landscape depletion highlighted by the loss of biodiversity had spread to the degradation of historical buildings. From another perspective, the readily identifiable farm management practices permitted the verification of their validity in terms of the conservation of local resources.

The documentation obtained from this research represent the first steps taken in the activities of the centre and will form the basis of a more detailed information system, namely a 'historical database' concerning changes in the landscape of the Paradise Gulf. The creation of such an archive for the area will contribute to the rich legacy of knowledge accumulated by research in geography, history and environmental studies at the LASA Doctoral School and the DAFIST SEMPER at the University of Genoa.

The Project «Luoghi di valore» (Outstanding places)

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Keywords: landscape, awareness, place, community.

As its scientific and experimental work on the knowledge, design and management of landscape has evolved, the *Benetton Foundation* has increasingly felt the need to investigate the universal links between place and the human condition and to encourage awareness raising, education and participation amongst local people, communities and schools.

With this in mind, at the end of 2006 the Foundation devised a new initiative, a project called *Outstanding Places*, inspired by the principles of the European Landscape Convention.

Outstanding Places takes the form of a direct appeal to the general public in which they are asked, explicitly and very simply, to nominate and describe a place (or places) that they believe to be of outstanding value and to explain why; the invitation is therefore for everybody to identify and to appraise "their" landscapes and to express their aspirations for the environment in which they live, and in so doing to put into concrete practice the contents of the Convention.

The focus is therefore on the point of view of the individuals and communities that live and work in these places, with their different social and cultural backgrounds, their daily needs, their aspirations and their feelings.

People take part in this cultural project by responding to a public announcement and completing a form on which they name and describe their *outstanding place*. The announcement has been published annually, so far six times, and welcomes submissions from anyone and everyone in the Province of Treviso.

The latest announcement was designed especially to stimulate collective involvement and to explore participants' ideas about the future of the places nominated.

Almost one thousand people have responded so far: individuals or groups, ordinary citizens, property owners, students, teachers, civil servants and many others. Their reasons for taking part are varied and many do not have the knowledge, the sensitivity or the taste of experts in the field, but their submissions are illuminated with the light of people who live in these places and who are part of them.

When the project started, it was clear at an international level that the time was right for this experiment. Over the last few years there have been many projects to do with exploring perceptions of people's immediate environments, their awareness of place, their alertness to the

role they could play in the decision-making processes concerning territorial issues within a cultural framework that was the product of a slow evolution which finally found expression in the European Landscape Convention and in the consequent "revolution" in the idea of landscape.
Another observable factor was a growing desire on the part of ordinary people in some way to retake control of the places where they led their lives and of their personal or collective relationship with those places in light of a broader sense of their value.

Our concept does not include the acceptance or rejection of nominations nor the proclamation of winners; all the places nominated, observed and described from the personal viewpoint of those who live or work there constitute, in their extreme variety of form, size and character, an indispensable resource for any attempt to identify and understand the needs, the modes of expression, the tastes of the community and their proposals and projects.
Many of the participants documented their nominated places and the value that made them "outstanding" not only by completing the submission form but also with a variety of other materials, including photographs, written texts, drawings, audio-visual aids and maps, a real treasure chest of information.
Moreover, to gain a better understanding of the reasons underlying nominations and the nature of the links between people and places, we prepared a double questionnaire, which was sent to all the nominators (year after year) with questions relating to personal details, in order to become better acquainted with those who had responded to our appeal and to the place or places nominated.
The project was originally launched as a simple gathering of nominations but it has gradually been enhanced with other elements all aimed at increasing participation of people in this collective reflection and at raising citizens' awareness of these topics.

We therefore organize a number of public meetings, around twenty to date, the latest just a month ago, with the nominators, those responsible for the places nominated and all the stakeholders; we work with local press to ensure frequent mentions in the local media and also in the specialist magazines; we have been to visit more than 60 of the "outstanding places", meeting there first of all the people who had nominated them and, when possible, also the owners, the administrators and all the other precious witnesses involved in the life of the place.
These visits to the places with the people involved show us that many citizens have very clear and cogent opinions and expectations about "their" places and that in many cases they are waiting for an opportunity to express them.
All the documentation produced (interviews, video footage, photographs and a variety of other materials) is very important for research into these topics.

The richness and interest of the material submitted along with the nominations and collected afterwards with the interviews led us to organize an annual exhibition, admission free, for about three months, on the premises of the Foundation. In the exhibitions all the material received with the submissions is set out together with the documentation of the meetings held in the "outstanding places", with photographs and short video clips of each interview.
The six exhibitions held so far have been visited by over 13,000 people.
To engage everyone actively we asked all visitors to express a preference for one of the places illustrated in the exhibition and to leave comment on their choice or on the project in general. Everyone is given a card or a form for this purpose on entering the exhibition, together with a leaflet commenting briefly on each of the submissions. Of course the visitors' comments and preferences are not solicited in order to grade the places or to acclaim winners; since they now number several thousand (all transcribed and ordered) they do nevertheless represent further useful material for the research project.
Finally we created a "digital box" which contains all the data, the information and the opinions assembled through the nominations, the interviews and the questionnaires, in other words a complete database with easy access to all the documentation.

A rapid overview of the nominations and a few comments about their interpretation.727 different places have been nominated in 749 submissions; the places are located in 92 of the 95 municipal areas within the Province of Treviso.
The list of participants shows that they belong to every social rank, live in every part of the Province (and even elsewhere in a few cases), and represent every cultural condition; so we can say that place is not something that exists "around" people and communities, it is not an optional context; on the contrary it is an essential component of our sphere of life, necessary to the human condition. To the point, in not uncommon cases, where the traumatic transformation of a place may cause a person to suffer as if the loss were of part of him- or herself.
The relationship of the nominator to the nominated place also varies considerably. Sometimes it is the owner, the designer or the person responsible for the site or it may be a civil servant, a scholarly expert or a group of schoolchildren; but perhaps the most significant element is the participation of citizens who have no role or direct responsibility for the places they nominate; people who, individually or together with others, nevertheless want to have their say, with an objective that often goes beyond simply knowing and sharing and extends, more or less explicitly, to participating in decisions as to their use, protection and modification.
Individual nominations often contain interesting and constructive suggestions and they are in any case important examples of "active citizenship", but the nominations presented by more or less numerous groups of people frequently arise from a collectively experienced relationship with the place and from an existing joint commitment, a situation that introduces different perspectives as regards both appraisal and proposals for the future. In most cases the nominators come from the municipal area where the place they have proposed is located and they are often already engaged in action to safeguard and promote appreciation of it.
Attachment to a place and commitment to its well-being inevitably start «in one's backyard». "Nimby" (not in my back yard) is not a syndrome, nor is it a synonym of opposition and mindless hostility; rather it is increasingly a point of departure for an enlightened and participatory attitude to the whole world, the world we can join Gilles Clément in calling our «planetary garden».
The variety of means used to speak of the places and to explain why they are judged as outstanding also reinforces the idea of universality in the relationship between person and place, a relationship that appears to be independent of possession of tools to express it. Everyone loves, in their own way, to recount a personal relationship with a place that has a special meaning for them and we have the impression that participation in the project has become a way in which many nominators have been able to recreate a connection with the places that had dulled or blurred over the years, or it has provided an opportunity to bring the connection to the surface and with it the realization that it implied passion and commitment; in both cases it demonstrated how the "need for place" exists but needs stimulation and proper "cultivation".

The variety of means used to respond is connected to an even greater, though less unexpected, variety of situations, stories, dimensions, functions and conditions of the places nominated: places in which nature is the principal feature, such as stretches of agricultural landscape, natural areas and man-made experiments, places with water; examples of built environment such as squares, roads, public and private buildings, suburban districts, schools, parks and gardens; large-scale environments and routes, eco-museums; coun-

try houses, hamlets and historical settlements; memorials and sepulchres, churches, convents and monasteries; archaeological sites of antiquity and modernity, including industrial areas; artistic places and places of social gathering.

So it is not easy to answer the often-asked question «what "types" of places have been nominated?» and «why?»; indeed it may actually be impossible because "outstanding places", as we mentioned earlier, shun typological sub-divisions and objective classifications and when we try in any case to define them we can never shake off the relationship the nominators had with these places, the ways they perceived and experienced them; that relationship itself becomes part of the connotation and "type" in a complex and unrepeatable fusion of formal attributes, functions, future prospects and subjective points of view.

The subjective judgement of the value of a place does not generally derive from its prestige or from the accumulated historical, artistic, cultural or natural importance attributed to it by critical tradition and acknowledged as a general perception; rather it is the product of the sedimentation of personal memories, of events experienced or recounted, of the evidence of change introduced by previous generations; it is due, in short, to a complicated array of factors, many of them personal, almost never easy to pin down, that culminate in a sense of being part of the long-term process that has made the place what it is.

Though we cannot go so far as to say that the more "traditional" values – those which in theory are more objective and easily shareable, almost "universal", for instance those relating to historical or artistic, environmental, natural or didactic qualities – are ignored or underestimated by the nominators, it is nevertheless remarkable that they choose such unusual, even surprising, ways of interpreting them.

Thus, to cite a recurrent pattern amongst the submissions, we see that the sense of the sacred, the need for meditation and prayer is not (or not only) translated into nominations of the numerous examples of monumental religious architecture in the Province but rather they become the key to understanding the value of smaller things, tiny country churches, wayside altars, little signs of devotion scattered around the countryside.

Similarly, the attachment of special value to nature or landscape is not confined to parks and gardens or areas managed with the stated purpose of nature conservation; more especially it concerns places of botanical or agricultural experimentation, places in which the key words are ecology, biodiversity and recycling, so also sites whose exceptional "naturalness" is only apparent because it is the consequence of abandonment and decay, and fragments of the *third landscape*.

The same parks and gardens are often nominated because of additional value and not only for their good design. People are frequently appreciative of a more "natural" concept of garden, one which is less conditioned by aesthetic criteria; in many cases too the prevailing value in the nomination of a park or a garden is its social utility.

And again, nominations tend to cite small historic towns and "minor", little-known country houses rather than the heritage sites for which the Province of Treviso is famous throughout the world; small country graveyards and not the sepulchres and memorials designed by world-famous architects; there are places associated with work mainly if they recall the past and belong to cultures clearly perceived as more "man-centred" or when they comprise large, disused buildings that offer interesting prospects of re-use; places that are apparently devoid of "objective" qualities but able to attract groups and communities and to satisfy their need to meet and spend time together; places that assume importance at the moment it becomes clear that their fragility and weakness exposes them to the threat of decay or destruction.

So in the construction of the person-place connection a central role is played by all the factors associated with the sphere of personal experience and knowledge, of familiarity and other relations, whether personal or shared at the small community level; equally central, however, are the factors associated with "identity", a recurrent term in nominations, and although it is perhaps too loosely used it must nevertheless be acknowledged that it plays an important role as a "warning light" indicating an ever-more-common sense of unease and disorientation consequent of the homogenization of places and the cancellation of variety and difference that has characterized the transformation of our Province in recent decades, devastating landscapes and feelings.

Finally, and it is worth underlining the fact once again, many of the nominations can be seen as spontaneous and generous gestures made by a society that intends to play a part in the work of understanding and governing its places and whose attribution of value also expresses a willingness to contemplate planning, action and change. This enthusiasm for planning is a promise of commitment for future landscapes and this needs to be underpinned by carefully prepared cultural competence.

Education and training are therefore (or *should be*) "pre-conditions" if it is agreed that the people involved are the mainstay of any definition of landscape and that looking after places must take account of their recognized characteristics and of the values attributed to them, always with the participation of the local communities and always taking their aspirations and proposals into account.

References

The *Outstanding Places* project was developed in the framework of the scientific work that the Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerche conducts in the field of landscape studies, design and management (www.fbsr.it).

The huge bibliography associated in one way or another with the project is currently being reorganized in preparation for a forthcoming publication that will illustrate and discuss its aims, methods and results.

We nevertheless consider it useful to mention certain essential reference points, starting with the writings of:

Yves Luginbühl, especially *Qualité du paysage - qualité de la vie. L'évolution de la domande sociale de paysage en Europe*, which he gave in Florence on 19th October 2010 on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the signing of the European Landscape Convention, and in general his work on the subject of *landscape and social well-being*;

Joan Nogué, especially *La construccion social del paisaje*, Biblioteca Nueva, Madrid 2007, 343 pp., *El paisaje en la cultura contemporánea*, Biblioteca Nueva, Madrid 2008, 301 pp., and *Altri paesaggi*, FrancoAngeli, Milan 2010, 328 pp.;

Salvatore Settis, especially *Paesaggio costituzione cemento. La battaglia per l'ambiente contro il degrado civile*, Einaudi, Turin,2010, 326 pp., where, on p. 296, in the chapter *Noi, i cittadini*, pp. 282-313, he mentions the *Outstanding Places* (*Luoghi di valore*) project;

Giovanna Sonda, especially her articles *Luoghi di valore nel Veneto. Che territorio stiamo raccontando?*, «Foedus», 24, II quarter, 2009, pp. 97-106, and *Narrare il paesaggio: un processo di costruzione di valori e significato*, «Rivista Geografica Italiana», 117, 2010, pp. 157-167, both of which are based on research she conducted in the framework of the project;

Francesco Vallerani, especially *Il grigio oltre le siepi. Geografie smarrite e racconti del disagio in Veneto* (ed. together with Mauro Varotto), Nuova Dimensione, Portogruaro 2005, 298 pp., and the just published *Italia desnuda. Percorsi di resistenza nell'Italia del cemento*, Unicopli, Milan 2013, 191 pp.;

Mauro Varotto, especially *Geografie del declino civico? Il fenomeno dei comitati spontanei in Veneto*, «Bollettino della Società Geografica Italiana», XIII, V, 1, January-March 2012, pp. 43-58, based on the report he presented at the Landscape Study Days entitled *Luoghi di valore. Valori del luogo* organized by the Foundation as part of the *Outstanding Places* project;

Massimo Venturi Ferriolo, especially *Percepire paesaggi. La potenza dello sguardo*, Bollati Boringhieri, Turin 2009, 282 pp., where, under the heading *Luoghi di valore: un'altra postilla* on pp. 172-175, he gives a brief description of the *Outstanding* Places project and a suggestion of how the results might be interpreted.

On the "Nimby" phenomenon, the recent study by Michele Racconato and Terri Mannarini *Non nel mio giardino. Prendere sul serio i movimenti Nimby*, Il Mulino, Bologna 2012, 170 pp., is the only one that needs to be listed here, given that the bibliographical references published on pp. 153-170 offer thorough coverage of other relevant publications.

Similarly, as regards *Osservatori del paesaggio*, published works on *landscape monitoring units* are well covered in the recent study by Francesco Visentin, *Gli Osservatori del paesaggio fra istituzionalizzazione e azione dal basso. Esperienze italiane a confronto*, in «Bollettino della Società Geografica Italiana», 12, 2012, pp. 823-838.

The mention of the «planetary garden» and of the «third landscape» pertain to the writings of Gilles Clément, especially Le jardin planétaire (ed., together with Claude Eveno), Éditions de l'Aube, La Tour d'Aigues 1997, 199 pp.; Le jardin planétaire. Réconcilier l'homme et la nature, catalogue of the exhibition of the same name mounted at the Parc de La Villette, Éditions Albin Michel, 1999, 127 pp.; Manifesto del terzo paesaggio, Quodlibet, Macerata, 2005, 87 pp. and Il giardiniere planetario, Rizzoli, Milan 2008, 95 pp.

Landscape Observatories Networks

Towards an Observatory of the Regional Landscape: an Hypothesis of the Tuscan Network

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Key words: network observatories, participation, active citizenship.

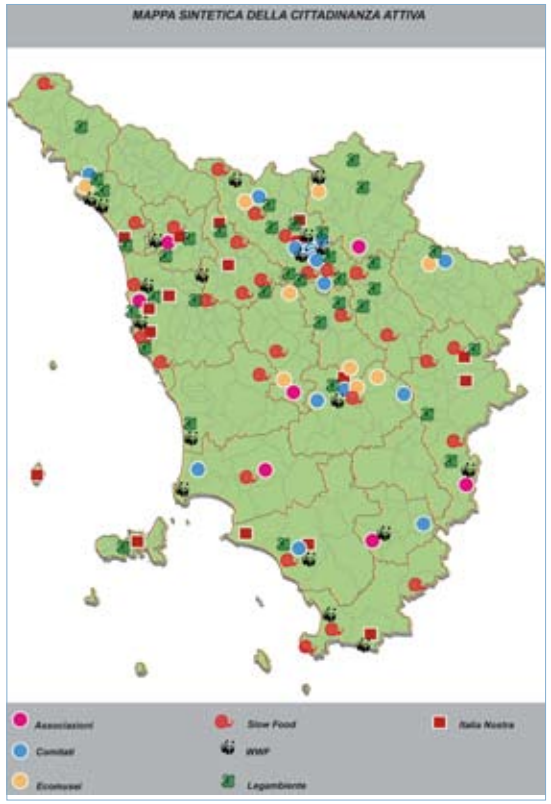
Introduction

The hypothesis of the Tuscan observatory was born concurrently and in close connection with the editing of the variation of the Landscape Plan of the Tuscany Region, amending the regional PIT (Integrated Territorial Plan). It is the result of a research project[1], entrusted by the Region to the CIST providing advisory services for the development of the Plan. The Plan is based on a remarkable knowledge device, cartographically well referenced both at the diachronic and perspective level, and on division of the regional territory into about 20 areas of landscape. Hopefully, each one will have its own local observatory. The idea is to organize the Regional landscape observatory as a central structure, equipped with local "antennas" organized in the "places" where there exist requests for civic commitment in favour of the themes of landscape and territory.

In order to accomplish these results research was carried out with the following aims:

- to follow the editing of the landscape plan with a course of information and participation;
- to create "infrastructures" and organize said information and participation process and in particular a network of central and local observatories via an interactive network, to push landscape as a propelling power and as a theme for a large regional "social forum".
- to open up a reflection on the definition of the observatory on the regional landscape and its territorial articulation in a network of local realities, in order to define fields of interest, spheres of action, activities, organizing structure and role that such agencies would have to fulfill during and most importantly after the process of editing of Regional Landscape Plan.

The research, currently in progress, was developed through an integrated activity of research-action, which allowed the development of both parts devoted to in-depth and operative theoretical study. The exploration of the diverse normative and organizational contexts within the countries that have signed the European Landscape Convention, the international literature on the link between the social perception of landscape and the growth of regional observatories, and the analysis of Italian regions that have activated said "institutions", was accompanied by field research which included data gathering on the forms of active citizenship in Tuscany (citizens' networks, committees, eco-museums, etc.), a series of interviews with leading figures of the existing local observatories and their respective referents within the regional and local government, as well as the organization of a series of events such as the "Landscape Tours", organized in various territorial contexts, or the meetings with active citizenship, in which an exchange with local communities was initiated, on the progress being made by the Plan and the hypothesis of the observatory. The "listening process" also included the elaboration of a questionnaire, aimed at high-school students in the main Tuscan cities. A dedicated interactive website was created (www.paesaggiotoscana.it) in which the Landscape Plan of the Tuscany Region is being discussed and promoted, through a continuous dialogue with all citizens, organized and non-organized, interested in contributing to its editing and implementation over time. Thanks to its simple and intuitive interface, it is possible to participate in the interactive construction of the Plan, including events, projects and best practices of protection for Tuscan landscapes, and to activate discussion forums. People can point out landscape emergencies and detracting factors on the map in the section "Segnalazioni" (*advisory*), or intervene in the discussion in the section "Forum", or contribute to the narrative of the Tuscan landscape and its transformations in the section "Il paesaggio ci riguarda" (*The landscape concerns us)*. Moreover, in the section "Automappatura" (*self-mapping*), citizens' organizations and associations concur in the drawing up of the active citizenship Tuscany map by indicating their presence. The map, an ongoing process, represents the first step in the definition of the local observatories network into which the Regional one will be subdivided.



The goal is to link up the directions and prescriptions of the diverse landscape areas in which the Regional Plan is articulated with the local project and to identify those figures which, if properly stimulated, can shape the territorial observatory, giving direct operation to the social construction of the Plan and its implementation over time.

1. A hypotheses for the Landscape Observatory of the Tuscany Region

The surveying process of European and national case studies suggested some reflections and led to the formulation of some hypotheses concerning the structure, organization and aims of a possible Landscape Observatory. Through a selection of aspects deemed important in each of the experiences analyzed, a hypothesis of the Tuscan observatory emerged.

1.1 Territorial organization

In Italy, landscape observatories can be divided into three different macro-types which, in order to simplify, could be defined as top down (Umbria, Abruzzo, etc.), bottom up (Piedmont) and a combination of those two (Puglia and Veneto). In this latter case, the regional structure is the main hub of a local observatories network, born of their own accord or through an initiative by the Region itself. And it is precisely this third solution that has been chosen as the organizational hypothesis for the observatories of the Tuscany Region. The idea is in fact to structure landscape observatories in a central structure and a network of local entities, one for each area identified by the Landscape Plan, interfacing and integrating into the regional one. In this way, regional observatories and local ones become links in the same chain and preserve their capacity as local agencies to channel participation by local communities, both in the phase of knowledge of the Plan and in the evaluative phase, and to exert more influence in the decision-making process. The network should be formed by those organizations (museums and eco-museums, landscape producers' associations, etc.) which in their functioning cover issues such as landscape culture and territorial culture, or which carry out actions to heighten awareness and involvement of local communities working with agencies, institutions, associations, and local experts. The goal is to activate places, both in the physical and functional sense, in which active citizenry and its associa-

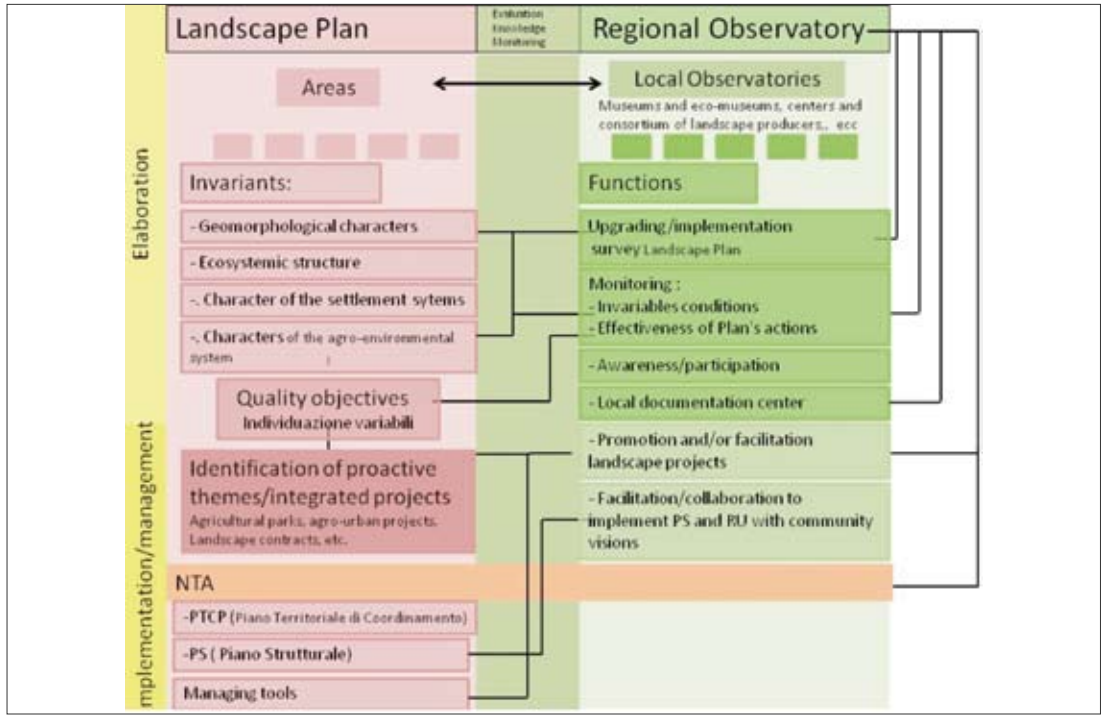
tions cooperate with the local administration in order to wisely develop their territory and to manage the future of that landscape in a shared manner.

The choice arises from several reasons. The first concerns the will to address "sound" structures, expressing a high level of cultural vitality and presenting an analysis and proactive capacity, specific present day situations notwithstanding. The second concerns the fact that these are already articulated as clusters of a network operating in the territory for the promotion of local culture, collaborating with volunteer groups and associations. They could therefore be the connective tissue of a more or less vital world and, according to circumstances and moments, interact among themselves on relevant landscape issues.

1.2 How to make a network

The hypothesis is to identify a pattern that can be structured by degrees, step by step, that are virtually duplicable everywhere, to be proposed also to other agencies and local governments not yet involved in such experiences and to start up the experimentation of the network of local observatories. Beginning a phase of experiments would allow changes in the course over the model used, but given the fact that we are dealing with network organizations which do not reach the territorial extension level of the entire area of the Plan, would also allow for the involvement, over the course of time, of other associations, agencies and organizations active in the field of interest and therefore to consolidate and structure ever more as an element of evaluation and management of the Plan.

We must highlight the fact that we are dealing with associations that even presenting analogies among themselves, are not born as observatories, but already operate on the themes of the landscape, are provided with offices and facilities that, boosted by the website, could constitute the basis of the experimentation. In this sense, the idea of grounding itself to already existing structures, particularly museums, could work also in relation to the wealth and capillarity of the Tuscan museum network, over which the Region has much invested in the past decade, restoring and revitalizing 670 structures.



1.3 Relationship Landscaping Plan. Observatories

In order to individuate closer ties with the structure of the Plan and to warrant more efficiency in its management over time, it is hypothesized to insert Technical notes of implementation of the plan, as done in Puglia, about the territorial organization, the structure, the work and activities of the observatory and in reference to what has been experimented in the European context, to individuate modes by which to carry out the monitoring of the Plan and the tools of participation to use. The Plan there could be individuated the dependent and independent variables, i.e. arguments and themes which the Observatory must keep under control in a determined period of time, in order to evaluate both the degree of transformation of the landscape itself and the efficacy of the Plan. In particular, seen the structure of the Plan itself, objects of the monitoring process could be constituted by the evaluation of the preservation of quality of the invariables and reaching the quality objectives. Following the examples of the experimentations carried out in the European context and in some Italian regions, quality objectives could moreover lead to the individuation, within each area, of certain strategic projects or project themes to be successively developed, also by the activation of tools such as the *Charte du paysage* and *Plan du paysage* in France, *Cartes del Paisatge* in Catalunya, Supplementary Planning Document in Great Britain, represent an important tool of governance, aimed at implementing directions and strategies to defend and heighten the value of the landscape.

Note

[1] The research was carried out by a team coordinated by prof. M. Morisi and composed by Francesco Chiezzi, Maddalena Rossi and Adalgisa Rubino.

Setting up a Series of Landscape Forum Events

Dirk Gotzmann, Johanna Keil

CIVILSCAPE is setting up a number of landscape forum events that aim to increase dialogue between civil society, regional and national authorities. The conferences are focusing on the interaction between actors and stakeholders, including the role of civil society. The conferences will highlight national and international examples and landscape perspectives in seminars and during excursions. They offer furthermore opportunities for exchange of experiences and discussions in an inspiring environments. CIVILSCAPE is looking for partners which would like to join this efforts.

As a reflection of European identity and diversity, the landscape is our living natural and cultural heritage, be it ordinary or outstanding, urban or rural, on land or in water" (Council of Europe). In this context, "Landscape means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/ or human factors" (European Landscape Convention (ELC), Chapter I, Article 1a). In reverse, the only way to create sustainable landscapes is to pay a greater attention to the voice of the European people. To give people a say on their landscapes was therefore the central intention of the ELC. 40 countries in Europe have already signed the successful convention for this specific reason.

Landscapes record natural, cultural and social diversity. The participation-chances that arise from the implementation of the

European Landscape Convention support the evelution of a proactive European citizenship. In this way the implementation of the ELC contributes to an European feeling of identity. The great and evident impact of the European policy on European landscape development and shaping - e.g. in terms of the European Common Agricultural and European Energy policy to name only two aspects – underlines the importance of civil participation on all relevant levels in regard to the European Landscape Convention. According to that, European policies influence the living environment of every citizen. In fact the bigger part of citizens is neither adequately informed about European policies nor actively involved in political decision-making on a European level.

CIVILSCAPE therefore plans to build up a series of landscape forums. The planned forums show the possibility for citizens for interaction and participation at concrete examples, which are exercised by all European countries, dealing with the landscape in terms of the European Landscape Convention. Furthermore our activities serve to awareness rising, reflections and debates about the meaning and the consequences of the European policy on everyday life of citizen. Landscape forums as planned by CIVILSCAPE illustrate the values, rights and chances that are arising from the Europe. Landscape can be seen as a vital resources linked to the development of a stable and inclusive economy.

In the sense of ‚landscape observatories' as described in the Guidelines for the implementation of the ELC by the Committee of Ministers, these landscape forums could act as an interface between different landscape observatories. Instruments for landscape policies and methods are already being put into use in several countries. The Guidelines point out that each of them can be a model for either the creation of new instruments or the improvement of existing ones. In this sense landscape forums - set up at a transnational level - create a platform for an ongoing trans-border exchange about new methods, instruments, problems and as a result enhance the implementation process. Further key aspect of the discussion will be the promotion of outcomes and consequences of European decision-making at different levels, experiences concerning protection, management and planning as well as public participation. As favoured in the guidlines, CIVILSCAPE wants to support an exchange of opinions and collaboration between different stakeholders and responsible policy-makers. In this way this proposed series of events and related activities could lead to a European Landscape Observatory. We already asked members of the European Parliaments as well as national and regional Parliaments to support the different up-coming ‚landscape forum' events for this purpose. The last event should therefore take place in Strasbourg with the aim to bring representatives of European institutions, national regions and local authorities together.

The forums furthermore indicate our shared responsibility for the future of the European Union. Tolerance and cultural knowledge due to personal meetings help to meet shared challenges. In practice this includes campaigns, discussions and reflections about the European citizenship and democracy, shared values, shared history and culture by cooperation of civil society organisations. CIVILSCAPE is going to publish and furnish the results of the transnational forum events at a separate webpage created for this purpose.

The idea of landscape forums was developed in the context of the European year of citizens 2013. This years declared motto emphasises the chances that can generate from a stronger civil voice on the one hand and rights that come with EU citizenship on the other hand. CIVILSCAPE as a member of EYC2013 Alliance (EYCA) has already conducted conversations to enable an integration of these kind of events in the annual programme of the European Year of citizens.

European Year of Citizens Alliance (EYCA) was created by major European civil society organisations and networks such as CIVILSCAPE to put forward proposals aimed at placing European citizenship at the heart of the EU political agenda. It specifies citizenship primarily as active involvement of citizens as participation in the life of their communities and thus in democracy, in terms of activity and decision-making. A democratic citizenship must also operate at Member States' level, so that citizens engagement is a possible part of every citizen's experience. A democratic citizenship implies that European institutions enjoy public confidence and can secure active involvement of citizens as well as organised civil society players in the decision-making processes at all levels, from local and national to European one.

EYCA furthermore outlines that a democratic citizenship guarantees that all citizens can participate in the life of their communities and the shaping of public policies.

CIVILSCAPE is planning to pursue the idea of ‚landscape forum' events even after the European Year of Citizens 2013. Especially with a view to the upcoming election in the European Parliament, CIVILSCAPE will support these relevant issues by appealing a public discussion, active participation and sustainable shaping of Europe.

Documentation, Assessment and Monitoring

How Can Policy Change Be Monitored? Developing a Monitoring Framework for Policy Change in Relation to Implementation of the ELC in the UK.

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Abstract

In 2009 a policy baseline was created as the starting point for monitoring policy change in the UK (see Roe, 2013). The objectives of the proposed monitoring framework were to monitor changes in legislation, policy and activities at the UK national level and the level of the devolved administrations of England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Based on a review of relevant literature and stakeholder discussions, a procedure and policy indicators to provide the evidence required was specified. The review identified the need for monitoring policy at all levels local to national to effect better consistency with the ELC. The framework was devised as a concise, easy-to-follow step-by-step format to aid use by policy-makers. This paper discusses the rationale behind the development of the recommended framework and evaluates the present (2013) position with regard to monitoring and other developments concerning evidence of change in UK landscape-related policy.

Keywords: European Landscape Convention; policy monitoring; policy change.

Introduction. What is meant by 'monitoring' in relation to the ELC?

When considering monitoring of the European Landscape Convention the fundamental principle is about how compliant States Parties are in relation to the Articles of the Convention. In Article 10[1] of the Convention, monitoring of implementation is identified as a high level exercise. Existing competent Committees of Experts designated by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe are responsible for monitoring

and their work is reported to the Committee of Ministers by the Secretary General. The basis for implementation is set out in Articles 5 & 6, and in the Guidelines (Part 1.G.)[2].

Section 11.2 (Criteria and instruments for landscape policies) of the Guidelines suggest that one of the fundamental stages in the process leading to landscape action is *the 'monitoring of changes, evaluation of the effects of policies, [and] possible redefinition of choices'.* In Appendix 1 (Section 2, No 7) of the Guidelines it is suggested that *'it is essential to have a means of monitoring landscape changes and the effectiveness of operations. This should help in the process of reviewing and reformulating landscape quality objectives and of redefining all phases of landscape policy and its resources on a periodical basis'.* This then provides a clearer indication that monitoring should occur at a number of levels and that although the responsibility of ensuring monitoring occurs is primarily at a high level, the monitoring process itself should be carried out on an inclusive basis and should entail monitoring of policy change and the impacts of policy on the landscape and landscape quality. In practice, discussion throughout States Parties suggests that monitoring is much more complex than it sounds in these documents and, as the Guidelines suggest, it is thus important to devise monitoring strategies appropriate for each State, as well as methods for carrying out the monitoring itself in a way that is suitable for the landscape issues and in a way that is relevant to the cultures and communities living within them.

Compliance, Monitoring and Measuring Change

As is clearly stated by the Articles and supporting text, the aims of the Convention relate to planning, designing and managing all landscapes and monitoring relates to compliance with these aims. The overall indicators of compliance can be used as key elements of change for monitoring purposes, thus we can identify:

- How the tangible and intangible condition of the landscape changes and the identification of trends and patterns of change over time
- How communities and societies regard and use the landscape – or the way landscape is framed.
- How communities, society and government respond to change through policy.

It is important to identify change, observe change and record change in any monitoring strategy. Policies and guidance help determine how we manage the condition of the landscape and how change is driven; they are expected to reflect national values and community attitudes to the landscape. If we regard the Convention as encapsulating the present European overall attitude to landscape, then the States' policies should also reflect this attitude and monitoring policy change at State level in relation to compliance with the aims and intent of the Convention is important.

The assumption is that the Convention will encourage change that increases the quality of landscape, thus the overall objective is better quality over time as indicated in Figure 1. 'Quality' is assessed in relation to change on the ground, change in society use and attitudes towards landscape and change in landscape policy. However there are many different routes to achieving that desired change in quality (Figure 1) and monitoring in relation to the Convention aims to help us understand what change occurs over time with policies acting as drivers of change using a myriad of routes that will achieve the desired objective.

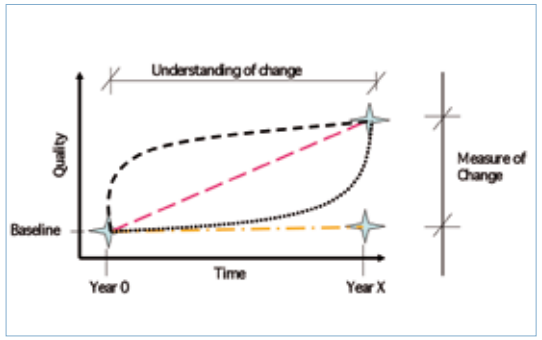


Fig. 1. Measuring change: A variety of routes may lead to the same change.

It is assumed that a measurement of change can be made, as long as some kind of starting point has been identified; that is a baseline that sets out existing conditions. Change can then be assessed in relation to those existing conditions, whether it is in the physical landscape, in society's attitudes or in policy content or discourse.

Although drivers of change can often be identified, there are considerable difficulties in trying to attribute the causes and effects of change, particularly in relation to policy. For example, Juntti and Potter (2002) emphasise the importance of understanding the knowledge, understanding and framing of all actors in the process of policy implementation. One of the main problems with monitoring landscape change is to understand the impact of policy on the managers and others that effect landscape change. As Antrop (2005) suggests: *'Land use changes are made by numerous users acting in a non-concerted manner each on their own plot of land. The result is a rather chaotic autonomous development of the landscape. Planning [and policy] aims to steer, control and guide this process. Interference with the autonomous development starts at the moment the intention of a planned action is announced'* (p.31). Thus policy and plans do not necessarily have the desired or anticipated effect; we need to try and understand the likely impact of policy on the landscape through a monitoring process. Although the assumption is that implementation of the Convention will induce desired change, we cannot be sure about this at this stage. However we can identify indicators that provide a picture of change in policy and a picture of change on the ground independently; we can also then compare these against baseline conditions which should be useful as long as we have good quality and relevant data.

In research carried out for the UK government Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), we aimed to develop a methodology for monitoring change in policy in the UK in relation to the implementation of the Convention, and to propose a monitoring framework within which baseline data would be used to assess change in national policy within the four devolved nations of the UK (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland). The research was led by specialists at Newcastle University with co-investigators from Sheffield and Manchester Universities. The baseline was constructed in four parts (see Roe et al, 2009; Roe, 2013) that incorporated an assessment of the present understanding of change, and the patterns and trends of change as well as a policy assessment digest

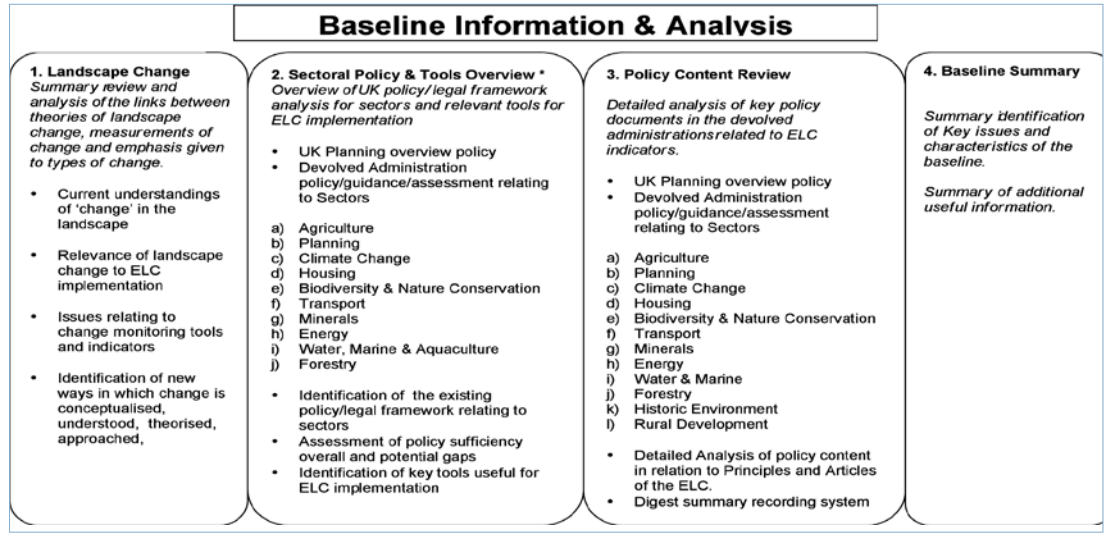


Fig. 2. Final baseline structure and content (Source Roe et al., 2009).

(Figure 2). As more work is done in relation to the Convention, it may be possible to make some clearer connections between the implementation of the Convention and policy change in each State through monitoring frameworks that use baselines such as this.

Policy as the Driver of Change in the Landscape

Change in the physical landscape is commonly measured through the quantification of loss of features such as hedgerows, walls and woodlands, the change in grain size of fields, the increase in roads, buildings and other infrastructure, and through qualitative methods relating to the change in land use, practices, in attitudes and perceptions (e.g. see Hanley *et al*., 2009) using indicators and other methods such as scenarios to try and understand the impacts of future change (see Dramstad and Sogge, 2003; Evans, 2008).

Studies in the UK have shown that during the 1970s and 1980s farms in lowland areas became bigger and more specialised and land uses therefore became more uniform over large areas of land. Spaces in between the intensively cultivated areas reduced and field sizes increased and boundary features such as hedges and stone walls, ditches and trees, which gave much of the character to the landscape, were removed or became derelict (Parry and Gaskell, 2006). In the 1990s the process of change slowed, but there was still change affecting landscape character and the quality was still seen to be in decline. Parry and Gaskell (2006) suggest that the features of value were still being lost such as *'diversity, local character, visual interest and biodiversity – but on the positive side farmers were becoming more aware of the value of landscape. The farmer questionnaires revealed how economic considerations, influenced by market trends as well as CAP[Common Agricultural Policy] support policies, were apparently a key driver for these kinds of change, promoting cost-efficient production of agricultural commodities over other potential strategies for farm business management'* (p.90). The slowing of change in the landscape was attributed to the combination of *'increased policy incentives for conservation, alongside decreased market and policy incentives for increasing output per hectare'* (Ibid, p.91). Studies such as this examine the impact of policy on the landscape by examining past examples. Such evidence is useful in trying to develop future policy but there is also danger in taking evidence on a single issue basis without looking at the broad picture of drivers of change[3] and how such drivers interact to produce landscape change.

How has change relating to landscape been monitored in the UK?

Using Landscape Character Assessment tools for monitoring change has been important in the examination of change on the ground in the UK. In England, the Countryside Quality Counts[4] project measured landscape change by assessing landscape character for two periods 1990-1998 and 1999-2003. The project used England's National Character Areas (NCAs) as the geographical framework for reporting and assessing both the magnitude and the direction of landscape change for each NCA, using four assessment categories:

1. maintained
2. enhancing
3. neglected
4. diverging

Key findings of the project suggested from the second assessment period (1999- 2003) showed that (Natural England, n.d.):

• Existing landscape character was being maintained in 51% of England's landscapes based on NCA assessment.

• A further 10% of existing character was being enhanced.

• 20% of English landscapes were showing signs of neglect (i.e. past loss of character had not been reversed).

• A further 19% of new landscape characteristics were emerging.

The assessment suggested that the erosion of landscape character as shown by the 1990-1998 assessment had been stopped or slowed in some places. There was also evidence to suggest that in a number of places the existing landscape character had been sustained or strengthened It was identified that the areas where the landscape character was neglected or diverging were generally those close to major centres of population and transport routes.

According to landscape monitoring reported by Natural England carried out over the last century in England the key change issues have been[5]:

• A gradual erosion of local distinctiveness in some areas, through a process of standardisation and simplification of some of the components that make up landscape character.

• A loss of some natural and semi-natural features and habitats such as ancient woodlands and unimproved grassland.

• A decline in some traditional agricultural landscape features such as farm ponds and hedgerows, and a loss of archaeological sites and traditional buildings.

• Increased urbanisation, often accompanied by poor design standards and a decline in the variety of building materials, and the importation of urban and suburban building styles into rural areas.

• A loss of remoteness and reduced tranquillity because of built development and traffic growth

More recently *The Living With Environmental Change* (LWEC)[6] partnership and programme has been established in the UK to develop an interdisciplinary evidence base, tools and processes to inform public and policy debates and people's choices about mitigation, management and adaptation options and opportunities. This is a ten year research programme, designed by government and non-governmental partners. It aims to provide decision makers with the best information to effectively manage and protect vital ecosystem services on the time and space scales on which the economy is managed. This programme aims to strengthen the evidence base for policy, not least by addressing the uncertainties that remain about the impacts of climate change and the links between natural capital and human well-being.

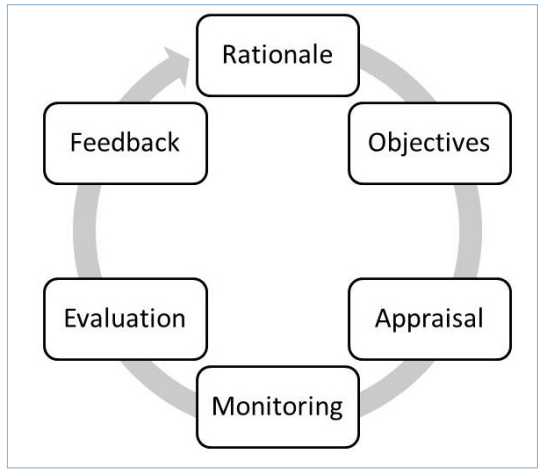
The Character and Quality of England's Landscapes (CQuEL)[7] programme, was developed by Natural England (the government advisor covering English landscape issues), however recent progress on this project seems to have stalled due to reorganisation of the Agency and uncertainties over funding and staffing to support the project. It seems that although monitoring of elements of the landscape – such as biodiversity – are still being carried out, the emphasis on the holistic approach that landscape monitoring and implementation of the Convention brings has been lost. This is in spite of an enormous focus by the present UK government on public participation, interest in infrastructure development and other projects, in the benefits landscape can provide through ecosystem services (particularly cultural and community identity) and in the considerable benefits to health and welfare that evidence has shown that landscape quality brings. The focus on gathering a good evidence base at a strategic landscape level in England has been lost by this present UK government.

In Scotland SNH produced a National Assessment of landscapes (2005) which acts as a descriptive overview baseline of the state of Scottish landscapes and the changes that they are undergoing, in addition they prepared a SWOT analysis of Scotland's activity against the aims of the Convention in 2009. This identified key challenges and opportunities. The gaps included the need *'to establish or strengthen the links between natural and cultural/historic approaches to landscape; to engage more fully with communities and the general public in landscape assessment approaches and decisions; to strengthen the focus on landscape/place in education; and to ensure that policy was informed by engaging with wider European experience'* (SNH, 2012 p.2).

In 2009 following on from research led by Newcastle University to investigate the construction of a baseline for monitoring policy change in England (Roe *et al*., 2008), Natural England produced guidance for a range of organisations on how to integrate the intent of the Convention into plans, policy and strategies (LUC, 2009). It recommended a number of actions or principles which were derived from the Newcastle research and tested through expert and stakeholder workshops. These were:

1. Ensure clarity in the use of terms and definitions
2. Recognise landscape in a holistic sense
3. Apply to all landscape
4. Understand the landscape baseline
5. Involve people
6. Integrate landscape
7. Raise awareness of the importance of landscape

Following the investigation relating to England, a further research project was established funded by Defra to propose a monitoring framework for understanding how relevant policy in the UK would change in response to implementation of the Convention. The starting point was to look at theoretical approaches to policy monitoring, and existing government guidance. The ROAMEF Cycle (HM Government, n.d.) provided us with the basis for our work (Figure 3). This sets out the general policy cycle, including monitoring, and clearly shows this as part of an ongoing process of feedback, appraisal and evaluation. An evidence baseline is clearly set out as the important starting point for the process.



Fi. 3: The ROAMEF Cycle: This sets out the broad policy cycle that includes identification of various stages relating to the process: Rationale, Objectives, Appraisal, Monitoring, Evaluation and Feedback (based on HM Government, n.d.).

The methods for the construction of the monitoring framework ran in parallel to the construction of baseline information (see Roe (2013) for a full description). Monitoring tasks and responsibilities were explored through scenarios constructed by the research team and discussed with the Steering Group of the research project which acted as a policy stakeholder focus group. Scenarios were presented to an expert discussion group (the Steering Group) in the form of a short presentation and paper. As this was primarily about organisational and responsibility issues, a number of key areas were summarised for discussion:

- Principles of monitoring responsibility (in relation to the Convention)
- Recap on the existing situation in terms of responsibilities
- Options for responsibility
- Tasks that needed to be done and what needed to be monitored

Four possible scenarios for responsibility streams including a summary analysis of the strengths and issues/problems with each possibility were illustrated and key points for discussion identified. The scenarios were fully discussed within the group and the preferred strategy identified.

Research Findings: Monitoring Components

A baseline provides a snapshot of the current state using available data. The baseline therefore provides the basis for monitoring change and identification of particular issues that arise. The evidence baseline we constructed was composed of four parts:

Part 1: A Landscape change analysis, which was a qualitative analysis

Part 2: A Sectoral Policy and Tools overview which was a qualitative analysis and identification of key issues in relation to tools for monitoring and assessment

Part 3: A data digest that provided a quantitative and qualitative analysis of relevant policies

Part 4: A short summary of the whole of parts 1-3.

The methodology we used was primarily policy analysis. In this project we reviewed academic theories, approaches and methods for policy analysis[8]. Three key points have been identified as important in policy analysis:

1. Examining the processes by which policy meanings are transmitted to its intended audience;
2. Identifying the intended audience;
3. Establishing how the audience interprets the meaning of the policy.

The first issue of transmission was being dealt with in a number of ways by the Council of Europe and the UK Government. In relation to the second point, the audience of the Convention is clear, it is all stakeholders of landscape or everyone in the States of the Convention. In the case of policy it can be seen as primarily the various stakeholders who interpret and implement government policy and guidance. The third point was particularly important in developing the overall research question related to the baseline: to what extent and how is the meaning of the Convention presently reflected in policy? Our investigation therefore looked at 'what' each policy examined in relation to landscape issues set out by the Convention, and also 'how' it was interpreted in relation to the policy discourses the analysis revealed.

The findings suggested that the UK policy was positively related to the intent and objectives of the Convention. Although there was variation in the way policy in the four devolved administrations of the UK reflected the Convention, the findings suggested a general point about the way landscape language was used in policy. Often policies reflected the Convention implicitly rather than through explicit policy wording and objectives. Thus the use of more explicit links to the Convention in clear 'landscape language' would be useful. The analysis revealed that UK policy tended to emphasise landscape protection and management, rather than positive planning for the future. It also showed a number of other useful points such as an inconsistency in UK policy in the way it reflected all the Convention's Articles. For example, the definition and articulation of 'quality objectives' in UK policy was not clear and the relevance of policies to landscape issues was generally not set out well.

Fig. 4: Diagram Key (Based on Roe et al., 2009).
The green arrows indicate the main monitoring process; other arrows indicate the feedback and information to be fed into the process.
Baseline:
• Provision of data that is the basis for comparative analysis in future years.
UK Reporting to CoE by Defra:
• Obligatory under the terms of the ELC; it is a biennial cycle
• The devolved administration reporting cycle is biennial and feeds into the Defra UK report.
• Any relevant information emerging from CoE reporting process fed into reporting cycle to be reviewed in Year 3 and Year 6.
Year 3 Interim Monitoring and Reporting (Stages 2-10):
• Review of activities relating to CoE and other countries relevant to monitoring process in UK and devolved administrations
• Overview monitoring of selected indicator sectors (Part 2 & 3 of Baseline)
• Comparison against relevant Baseline information
• Information fed into Stage 1 of full monitoring process
Year 5 Full Monitoring Process (Stages 1-10):
• Includes a review of Year 3 interim analysis and any further information that has emerged from the CoE and other countries.
Year 6 Reporting
• Occurs following the full monitoring process.

The full monitoring cycle within which the baseline was situated was proposed as a five year cycle with interim monitoring occurring at three years (Figure 4). This framework was based on important principles:

• The framework should be flexible in order to be able to respond to changes in policy and administrative structures.

• It needed to be straightforward and readily understandable by a range of stakeholders.

• Parts of monitoring process responsibilities could be delegated if necessary to the devolved administrations, agencies and others.

• The proposed cycle should take into account the normal policy cycles within UK government (e.g. the UK government elections are held every 4 years) and the time it would take to carry out the monitoring reporting process.

• The framework would ensure change was properly monitored while also considering the financial implications of a full monitoring process, thus interim monitoring stages were identified.

• The importance of clear reporting and communication of results

• The need for a dynamic and reflective feedback system to allow for knowledge gained at every and all levels to be fed back into the development of a monitoring process and to ensure response to the demands of changes in policy, the environmental conditions, societal needs etc.

Defra reports to the Council of Europe biennially, this is obligatory under the terms of the Convention. The devolved administration reporting cycle is also biennial, feeding into the Defra UK report. Any useful information emerging from the two-year reporting process to the Council of Europe would be fed into the reporting cycle to be reviewed in Year 3 and Year 6. In Year 3 there would be Interim Monitoring and Reporting.

In constructing the monitoring framework it also became clear that the monitoring process could take on an additional important function: it could play a key role in Convention implementation through awareness-raising and education of policy-makers, planners, and those in organisations involved in the production of environmental policy, guidance and assessment. This framework was devised in relation to national policy, but it was also important to consider how vertical integration with policies at regional and local level and horizontally across sectors might be monitored.

Thus the framework was designed to act alongside a number of other monitoring initiatives and processes that would cover policy change monitoring at other levels and monitoring of change on the ground etc. In order for the comparison against the baseline to be meaningful and useful a high level of consistency and continuity would be needed within the assessments. Discussion with the Stakeholder (Steering) Group suggested the possibility of the need for a national level moderator to provide assessments with the knowledge, expertise and capacity to undertake the assessments.

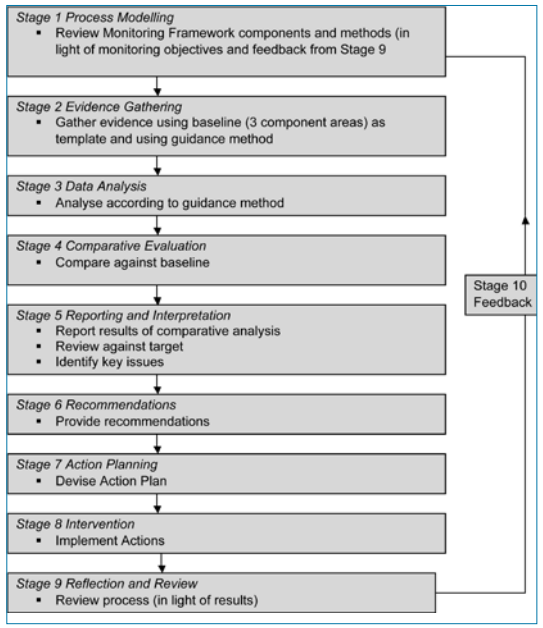


Fig. 5: The Monitoring Stages – Full Monitoring Process (Source Roe et al., 2009).

The recommended monitoring process has ten stages (Figure 5). Since this is seen as an iterative framework, initiation of the monitoring process each cycle (Stage 1) would be with a review of the Monitoring Framework components and methods (in light of monitoring objectives and feedback from Stage 10). Stage 2 would be the evidence gathering phased using the existing baseline as template and basic methods set out in the report (see Roe et al., 2009). Stage 3 would consist of an analysis of data relating to each part of the baseline, including a summary analysis. Stage 4 would be the comparative evaluation of new data against the baseline to identify the extent to which policies are consistent with the target of Convention implementation in the UK, and how the situation had changed since the previous monitoring process. This Stage would be a key activity of the monitoring process. Criteria for such a comparison should be discussed with Defra/UK Monitoring Group but the key point is to examine overall change in the response to the Convention; this may increase or decrease in conformity with the principles and intent of the Convention.

In Stage 5 (Reporting and Interpretation) it was important to identify both who was doing the reporting and to whom the report was being made. This would determine the format of the report . It was assumed that government body, Defra, would retain overall responsibility for overseeing the monitoring process with others involved at different stages. In addition it was assumed that Defra and others identified specifically within the process would continue to have institutional capacity to carry out the relevant monitoring responsibilities.

Stages 6-10 were seen as the important reflection, action and feedback stages. Information, evaluation and feedback are fed into the process and of course into planning other actions relating to implementation of the Convention. Criteria for the comparisons to be made would need to be discussed with Defra/UK Monitoring Group but the key point is to examine overall change in the response to the Convention to see if there was an increase or decrease in conformity. In order to focus clearly on observed change, we recommended that five key areas should be examined and discussed in particular:

1. New thinking and initiatives
2. New tools
3. New policies
4. Distinct trends relating to implementation of the ELC
5. Performance related to that provided in the previous baseline

The feedback would also then be fed into Stage 1 of the next monitoring process. A transparent and efficient record system would be needed in order for this process to work well. No consultation of a wider public or stakeholder group is embedded within this system.

Conclusions and Reflections

Briefly, the key conclusions in relation to policy monitoring are that consideration needs to be given to how often monitoring needs to occur; how feedback occurs, what is important to monitor, who should do the monitoring, how can data be stored, what long term plan can be devised for monitoring and how the system can be financed.

Our work suggests that provision for further consultation to be embedded within this system would be useful. At various stages consultation with a wider stakeholder group is probably desirable.

On-going evidence of policy change is important because policy is a vital driver of change in the landscape. Although local monitoring and participatory processes are important, overall strategic landscape vision is also needed by our politicians and policy-makers. In particular, an emphasis on monitoring the 'parts' of landscape (e.g. biodiversity) without seeing the whole picture will lead to a partial view of what is going on.

The economic situation seems to be the main

driver of decision-making in the UK at present. Unfortunately cutting back means there is a critical loss of knowledge and skills amongst professionals working in this field. It also seems to affect the vision of policy-makers: there is a need for a more interpretative approach at the landscapes scale; a holistic and analytical approach to feed into policy planning and implementation. Government seems to regard development as the only economic driver without care for the impact that development may have in the longer term on the landscape. It also sees communities as drivers and controllers of development, without fully thinking through the implications this may have in a strategic sense.

Monitoring needs to be part of a larger and positive concept of landscape action related to the Convention: landscape is not just a spatial unit and it cannot just be thought of as 'a service'. We need to build up what I would term 'landscape intelligence' to understand the real impact of policy change and how the Convention can influence change in policy, the physical landscape and the way communities frame the landscape.

Note

[1] Article 10 - Monitoring of the implementation of the Convention

[1] Existing competent Committees of Experts set up under Article 17 of the Statute of the Council of Europe shall be designated by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Convention.

[2] Following each meeting of the Committees of Experts, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall transmit a report on the work carried out and on the operation of the Convention to the Committee of Ministers.

[3] See: http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/landscape/versionsorientation/anglais.pdf

[3] See Bürgi *et al.* (2004) and Hersperger and Bürgi (2010) for useful discussions of the relevance of drivers of change.

[4] See: http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/landscape/englands/character/cqc/default.aspx

[5] See http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/landscape/cquel.aspx

[6] See http://www.lwec.org.uk/

[7] See http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/landscape/cquel.aspx

[8] Particularly useful sources of information were the Magenta Book (HM Treasury, 2007) and Fischer (2003).

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The Place of Natural Landscape Inside Metropolis: Planning, Conservation, Monitoring (the Case Study Of Saint-Petersburg)

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Keywords: natural landscape, protected natural territory, landscape-dynamical approach.

Saint-Petersburg is the largest city in the world in a natural zone of taiga (boreal forest). The city area makes 1439 km^2 and includes natural landscapes of boreal forests, bogs, marshes, coastal sites. In spite of the fact that practically all these landscapes at more than 300-year history of the city were exposed to various human impacts, the character of contemporary processes here is close to their natural form. The place and the destiny of the natural landscapes inside big city are quite contradictory. On one side, the growing environmental consciousness of the citizens encourage the conservationist tendencies and creation of environmental framework, including the network of protected natural territories (PNT). Per contra, needs of city infrastructure development and non-stopped growth of land cost provoke countless land-use conflicts and taking off natural landscape plots for residential, industrial building or communications.

The authors have been carried out the analysis of St. Petersburg's natural landscapes, which are understood as territories basically covered with natural vegetation. Conclusions are based upon our own field research data, the analysis of maps and remote images as well as surveys of the forest service. In 2011 the first detailed map of the landscapes of St. Petersburg was made by the authors in scale 1: 50 000. On the map are presented 30 types of landscapes of non-built areas with natural or partly natural vegetation and 18 types of urban landscapes with close building and transformed relief and upper ground layer. The generalized version of the map of natural landscapes of St. Petersburg is presented on fig. 1.

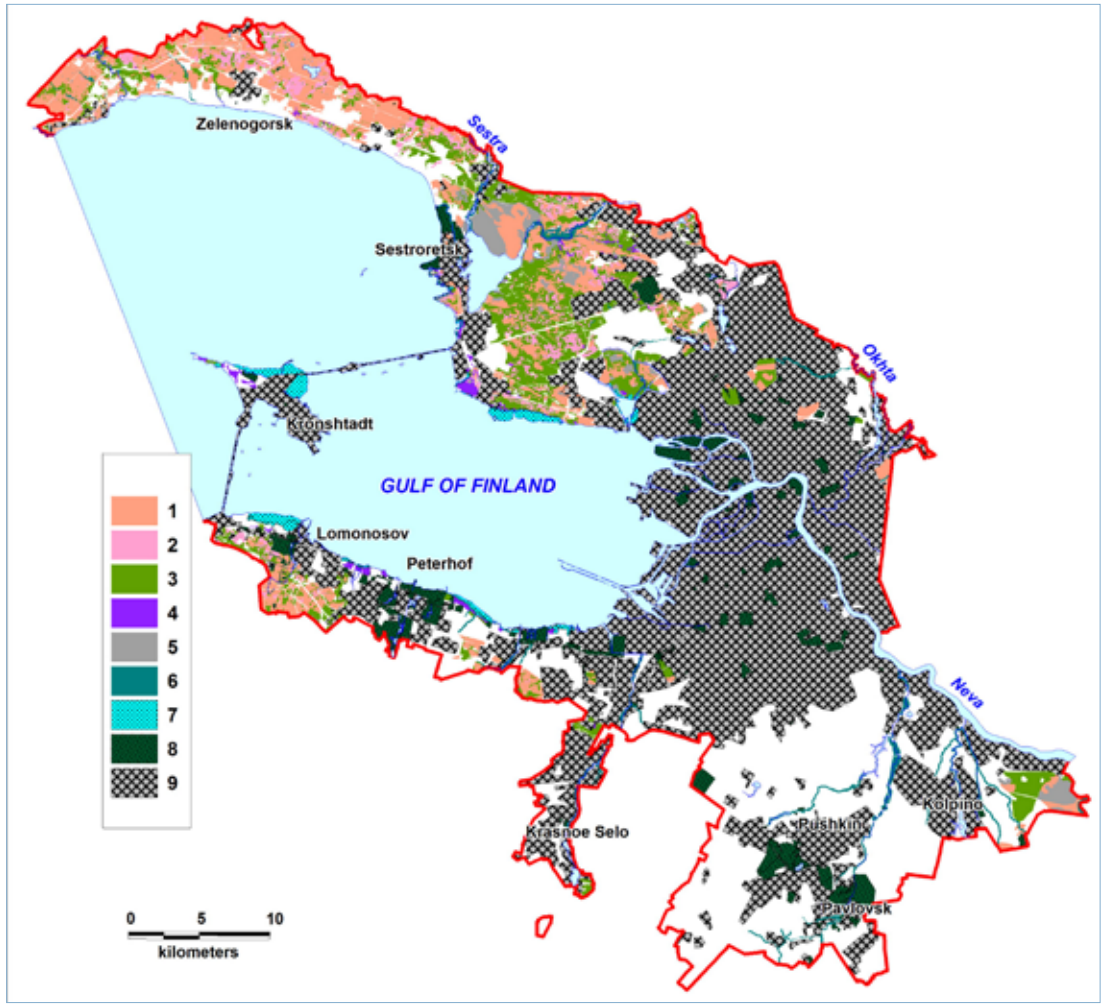

Figure 1. Natural landscapes of Saint-Petersburg: 1 – pine woods, 2 – spruce woods, 3 – birch and aspen woods, 4 – black alder groves, 5 – treeless bogs, 6 – valleys and flood-plains of small rivers, 7 – heterogenous coastal landscapes (including reed and bulrush thickets). Other territories: 8 – parks and cemeteries, 9 – area with compact building.

At present, approximately 250 km^2 (17 % of the city area) remain wooded, with a dominance of taiga tree coniferous and small-leaved species: pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) – 44 % of wood area, spruce (*Picea abies*) – 13 %, birch (*Betula pendula, B. pubescens*) – 38 %, asp (*Populus tremula*) – 4 %. The greatest share of the most valuable coniferous woods is concentrated in the north-western part of the city, where the sandy terraces and kame hills dominate. In the past, the significant area, especially on coastal sites, was covered with black alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) woods; however these territories were built up first, therefore now black alder groves occupy only 0.8 % of the city woods (Isachenko, Reznikov, 2011).

It should be noted that many territories regarded as city parks are really parts of natural woods. Some woods are located on the lands which have no special status and, thus, do not enter into any accounts of wooded area. As a rule, these are small-leaved woods (including those of grey alder – Alnus incana), which have grown on former agricultural lands, wastelands and peat fields, and also on the sandy inwashes prepared for building and later abandoned. Approximately 40 km^2 of the city forests falls on the planning zones where partial or full cutting is permitted, that can lead to a sharp decrease in the city woods area.

The territory of St. Petersburg has about 30 peat-bogs with total area of 76 km^2. Most of these peat-bogs have been essentially changed by drainage and peat excavation. The majority of the bogs are situated on the lands of urban forests. The attitude of the authorities and of the population of St. Petersburg towards bog protection is ambiguous. Bogs are perceived by many people as 'bad lands', unsuitable for recreation. Most peateries are allocated by city authorities for industrial and residential building. Nevertheless, under the insistence of scientists the main massifs of natural bogs are included in PNT. Among St. Petersburg's bogs and marshes the oligotrophic (raised) bogs prevail; most of them are to some extent drained and completely covered with wood. On the low marine terraces and on Kotlin island there are a lot of transitional (meso-oligotrophic and mesotrophic) bogs and eutrophic fens. Fens and marshes covered with black alder groves, willow and reed thickets are the most unattractive for people, and due to it many species of waterfowl and shore birds nest and feed here, and some rare plant species occur here as well.

Within the limits of St. Petersburg there are about 200 km of a coastal line of the Gulf of Finland. The length of the natural coastal landscapes reaches 52 % of the total coastal line. The most picturesque are the coasts formed by sands and sandy-boulder deposits (27 % of the total coastal line). The greatest extent of sandy beaches is in the north-western part of the city. Much less attractive are low coasts with fragments of fens and marshes (25 %), but it is here that the biotopes of specific and rare coastal plants and animals are present. Some parts of artificial coast also are of value for their natural peculiarities.

St. Petersburg's coastal landscapes are changing very rapidly. Owing to wash-out of coasts, the area of beaches has decreased and the area of sandy-boulder abraded coasts has increased. Plant overgrowth and the greater shallowness of the water area due to the construction of the dike that protect the city from floods (finished in 2011) have led to an increase in the proportion of overgrown and bogged coasts at an expense of sandy beaches. Vacant sites on in-washed coasts have gradually built up. Besides, on some coastal sites port constructions have completely destroyed natural landscapes. To the moment the main threat for the sandy beaches of Sestroretsk area and coastal fen ecosystems with rare shrub *Myrica gale* of all-Russian value is the realization of the ambitious project of inwash of the territory of 3.8 km^2 at the expense of the Gulf of Finland water area.

The network of PNT of St.Petersburg, being formed from 1990, in 2013 includes 12 PNT with a total area 57.4 km^2. With the projected PNT (13.8 km^2) and those suggested by way of legislation initiative (287.6 km^2) the total area of the city PNT can reach in near future almost 25 % of the territory of St. Petersburg (fig. 2). The authors have developed and realized the algorithm of landscape planning and monitoring of PNT in St.-Petersburg based on landscape-dynamical approach (Isachenko, 2007). Process of planning involves creation of the maps of landscape sites, actual vegetation, influences on landscapes, modern processes in landscapes, undesirable dynamic trends, functional zoning, planning of nature protection actions. For the control of processes of long-term changes of landscapes and an estimation of efficiency of nature protection actions the network of landscape monitoring has been created in 2006. To the moment the network includes 52 permanent key plots; area differs from 100 to 2500 square meters.

Periodicity of observations on the key plots varies from once a year to once in four years. Observations include tree stand valuation, survey of the horizontal structure of vegetation cover, registration of species of vascular plants, moss-

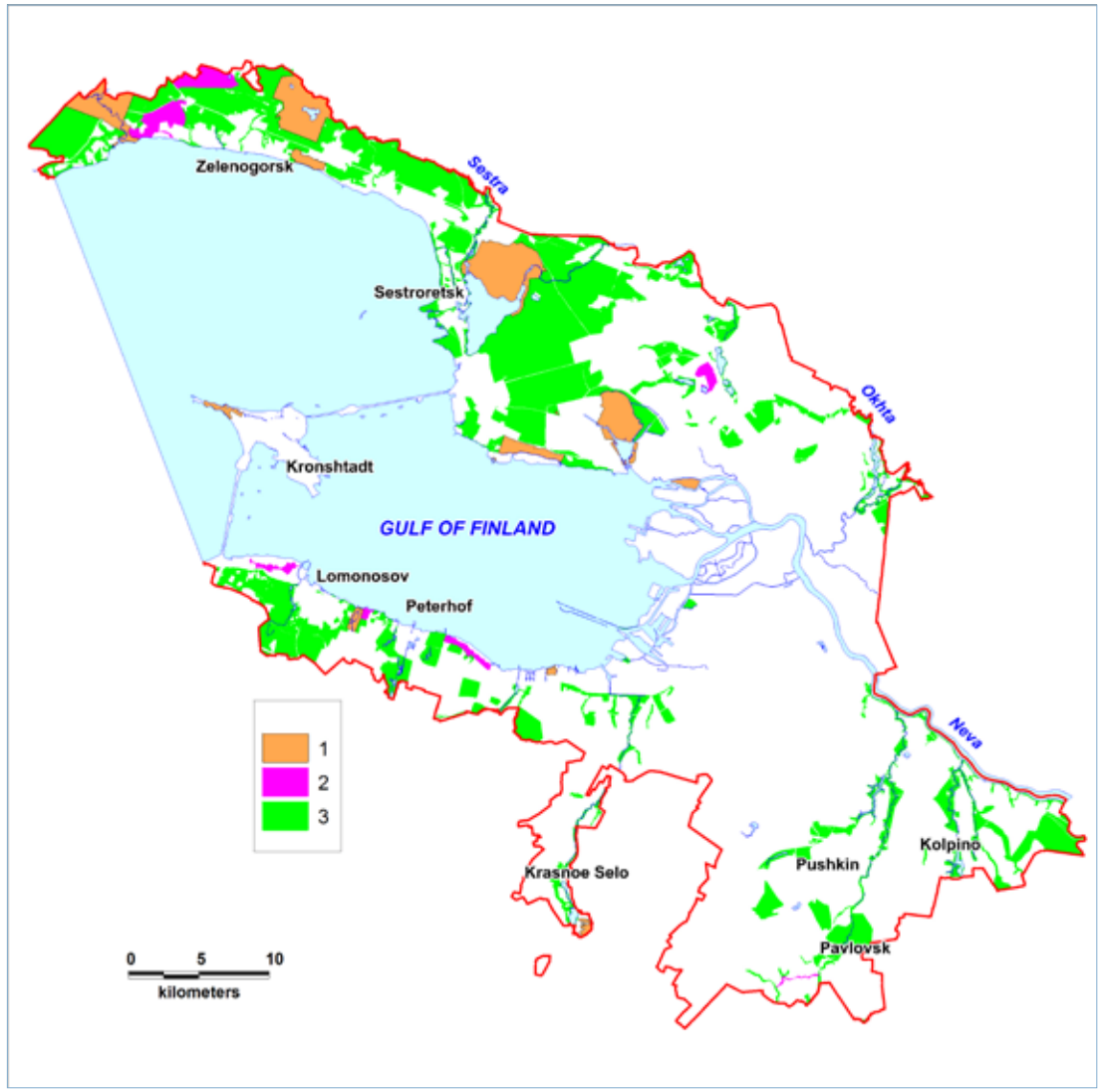

Fig. 2. The development of the network of protected natural territories (PNT) in Saint-Petersburg. 1- existed PNT (2013), 2 –PNT in process of creation, 3 – PNT suggested by way of legislation initiative.

es and lichens and certain taxonomic groups of animals (e.g. birds, ants) as well. The exogenous processes that change relief, upper ground layer and soils (water and wind erosion, abrasion of sea coasts etc.) are also fixed with the registration marks.

The first results of monitoring observations allow to foresee necessary corrections in PNT development plans.

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Landscape Observatory and Archive of Andalusia (OAPA)

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Keywords: Landscape evolution, photographic observatories, landscape monitoring, Spain.

Introduction

Profound transformations in the functioning and configuration of the landscape are an essential element of recent changes in the earth´s surface as a consequence of territorial, socio-cultural and economic processes. These alterations affect not only fundamental environmental issues, such as local climate, biodiversity or the state of the soil and water, but also influence the quality of our living space and the visual resources of the territory. For all these reasons the evolution of the landscape, especially in terms of changes in vegetation cover and land use, has become an object of great scientific interest in recent decades. The Landscape Observatory and Archive of Andalusia was designed as an operational tool that implements a specific protocol for collecting, archiving and classifying data aimed at the systematic monitoring of the processes and dynamics that affect landscape. Furthermore it provides a base for identification of functions and values that society attributes to its landscapes and therefore it contributes to raising awareness and fostering participation in the management of landscape resources (Conrad *et al.*, 2011). The final objective is to contribute to the elaboration of specific tools to provide technical support for public administrations in the process of decision-making.

Design And Implementation Of The Method

In order to conduct the study of landscape dynamics a method of photographic observation and photo-comparison has been applied. The Observatory is based on the systematic classification of landscapes, which are monitored by a periodic follow-up of these photographs from the same perspective. The basic principles of this technique have been validated in a range of studies related to monitoring of ecological, geomorphological and urban processes and more recently to that of landscape evolution (Carré and Métailié, 2008).

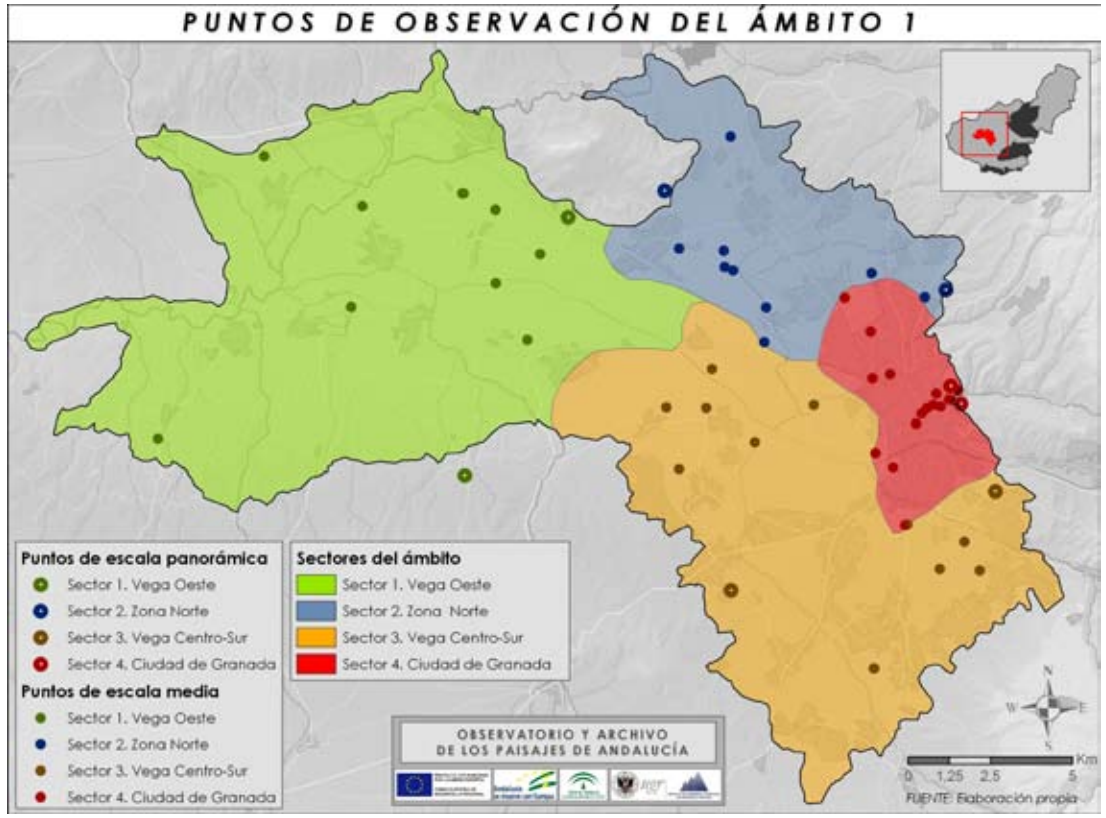
The Archive, developed in parallel to the Observatory, aims at creating a database for the landscape heritage of the studied area allowing for the interpretation and evaluation of the history of its transformations. It also forms an intrinsic part of the Observatory as it contributes to generating documentation for the implementation of activities for generating awareness. Additionally, the old photographs that represent the cultural imagery and which are collected in the Archive orientate the selection of some points of observation. The fixed network of points also serves as a base for localizing old images which can extend the time-span of series of certain views.

The implementation of the Observatory consists of three main phases, preceded by a preliminary study. The last phase has a transversal character.

1. Preliminary study.

The first part of the preliminary study aims at understanding the configuration and current characteristics of the landscapes and recent dynamics of the studied territory. It included an analysis of the bibliographical documentation of the historical evolution of the landscapes (Jimenez *et al.*, 2010), and also the results of the processes of sectorization of the analyzed area and of photo-interpretation of two sets of aerial photographs: the series of 1999 and 2009.

The sectorization has triple functionality: it responds to the natural division of different types of landscape of each region; it structures the territory for subsequent configuration of the network of points for observation of the heterogeneity and richness of the landscape, cap-



Map 1. Network of points for monitoring in the studied territory "Metropolitan Area and Vega of Granada".

turing the natural and cultural diversity of the studied zone; and, finally, it articulates the area in the functional form, introducing already in this phase elements of the design of the processes of public participation.

The methodology of photointerpretation is based on the identification of changes. This process, using ArcGIS 9.3 of ESRI España, is conducted by superimposing two sets of images. In this way we detect on the most recent photo those areas that have been affected by transformations of the elements of the landscape. This enables the identification of dynamics of change of the landscapes in the last decade.
The last element of the preliminary study is the analysis of the territorial planning documents. It enables the identification of potential changes and existing threats for the landscape.

2. Data collection.
A network of fixed observation points, representative of all the types of landscape in the studied territory, is designed to permit regular capturing of images of selected areas. The objective is to obtain a series of images which can be used for comparative analysis in order to monitor landscape evolution over time and provide data for future scenarios. This allows estimating gains and losses in the value of landscape resources, a key factor in the quality of territory.
The configuration of the network of monitoring points of the landscape is based on exhaustive fieldwork. With the support of the results of the preliminary study and through the implementation of public participation processes, which are described below, the final network of points is established. This network, covering all landscape types and taking into account the dynamics of change identified and the territorial actions planned, forms the base for regular and systematic monitoring (Houet *et al*., 2010).
For each point of observation an information file is elaborated. It is composed of an image taken in each photographic campaign, technical information of the point and the analysis of the characteristics and dynamics of its landscape. This enables future repetition of exactly the same image.

3. Interpretation.
All the images, both from the Observatory and Archive, form a database of landscapes. The analysis of the images is conducted comparing pairs or series of images. This database facilitates monitoring of landscape transformations and, above all, it allows qualitative analysis which is only possible through photos taken at ground level. In this sense, and in comparison to cartographic and aerial documents, photographs taken in the framework of the observatory will constitute a tool for the appreciation of landscape in terms of human perception (Council of Europe, 2000). It is this point which leads to the other branch of the Observatory: Public Participation.

Examples of images from the network of points for monitoring:

Fig 1. Cortijo of Tafia. Author: Andrés Caballero Calvo

Fig 2. Road CN-340, vicinity of Casarones. Author: Laura Porcel Rodríguez

4. Public Participation
The OAPA is designed as a participative tool serving as a platform for analysis of landscape dynamics as well as a basis for dialogue on landscape values among key local actors such as researchers, public administration and local communities (Laurian and Shaw, 2009; Sgard, 2010).
Diachronic and synchronic analysis of photographic series enables the construction of alternative scenarios aimed at sustainable future management of the landscape according to the demands of the population. To ensure the participative character of the observatory, a specific methodology, which gathers information about the perception of the landscape for each of the areas of study, is applied. It aims at identifying functions and values that the society attributes to their landscapes. In this way OAPA serves as a tool for raising awareness and responds to one of its main objectives which is to contribute to the democratic governance of landscape resources.

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The Landscape Observatory at a Time of Crisis

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Abstract

Starting from the new Regional Law Proposal on Land Control/ Management in which the role of landscape-monitoring and people's awareness in decision-making is emphasized, and considering the present economic situation, a new model of Landscape Observatory must be conceived as a light "non-bureaucratic" central structure (mainly as an open-access web database) connected to a dispersed network of local observatories scattered throughout the territory. People's direct actions in the local structures will be the soul of the Observatory System in the debate around political decisions (at the different levels). The regional structure will be the main actor in collecting and disseminating information, and in monitoring landscape transformations. Its biennial report on "The State of the Regional Landscape" will become the main source of information for landscape-issues and a fundamental document for planning decisions within the framework of developing, improving and preserving policies.

Keywords: Observatory models, population's awareness and participation, monitoring.

The European Landscape Convention was adopted in 2000: almost 15 years ago.
A first assessment may be conducted, also by highlighting some important and positive achievements:

1. Landscape is considered as the focus of all actions on the territory. Every transformation on the land is related to the landscape and is, itself, landscape.
2. Landscape is one of the main factors in people's quality of life and it involves many components (e.g. social, psychological and aesthetic).
3. The responsibility for landscape belongs to the public and it involves collective actions: the policies and planning are up to the public administration, but participation in all the decisions is up to all active citizens.

The Council of Europe Convention also points out the tools to reach these achievements with two operating leverages:
People: a) awareness-raising and b) training and education,
and
Instruments: a) to identify the actual landscapes; b) to analyse their characteristics and the forces transforming them; c) to design futures scenarios; and d) to monitor the changes.

People and instruments are related and they are both aimed at determining (i) the quality of landscape objectives; and defining (ii) the implementation plan for protecting, managing and planning the landscape.

The Observatory must be seen as an "ideal site" where people and instruments meet together to check if the landscape objectives are reached and the policies have been successful or not.

The observatory does not have a research or planning role, but it monitors the territories and promotes the citizens' active participation in all landscape changes.

At the moment we can illustrate four different models of observatories.

1. The *Catalonia Model* is a "centre of ideas and actions" related to the landscape. It responds to the need to study the landscape, to prepare proposals and to raise awareness in Catalan society to protect, manage and plan the landscape. It is also a point of reference for scientific and technical research, publications and international relations. The structure is composed of one main regional centre with some associate local reference centres.

2. The *Piemonte Model* is a network of local observatories related to specific situations. It is based on a network of small associations comprised of engaged groups of people focused on the understanding and protection of their own territories. The people's actions define the programs and the management of the landscape, considered as a historical, natural, social and economic resource also in relation to sustainable development. The construction of landscape consciousness is one of the most important aims of this type of observatory, because only with this set-up is possible to have a wide democratic participation in decision-making. This model is conceived as an active instrument to study, understand, interpret and compare different situations. It is the starting point for understanding and designing the landscape of tomorrow, which can be built only on an in-depth analysis of the ancient landscape and its transformations (territorial database) related to socio-cultural growth.

A combination of these two *models (1 and 2)* can be found in local institutions such as the *Brenta Mountain Development Agency* and the Cimone del Grappa Valstanga, San Nazario, Campolongo sul Brenta, Solanga and Pieve del Grappa Municipalities.
In the Brenta experience the local bureaus come together with the aims of both landscape research and the promotion of people's participation.
This observatory model is conceived as a venue for comparing different landscape practices. It gathers institutional, administrative, research and conservation approaches, and concrete and daily knowledge. As highlighted on the Brenta Website, "The Observatory management model will be developed during the project activities, on the basis of the guidelines established by the Regional Government. This experience will evaluate the feasibility of a network of architecture which enhances simultaneously horizontal and vertical relationships and allows work at different spatial scales."

3. The *Landscape Photographic (Observatoire photographique du paysage) Model* – It is a French experience based on a large aerial-photographs (high and low definition) database with geo-reference points, related to a non-bureaucratic model of observatory, based on the collection and comparison of documents related to the representation (e.g. cartography, photos, paintings, novels, and travels) of a region. Each region is related to the other and is part of a national system of landscape information. It is a great archive of land-memory and it is available on the web where everyone can have access, in order to have a clear idea of the region's modifications so as to become more aware of the landscape as a collective and cultural resource. Among the most interesting examples are the *Observatoire photographique du paysage dans le cadre du Contrat de rivière Semois-Semoy* from 2003) and the *Observatoire CAUE* (Loire-Atlantique, Loiret, Maine-et-Loire, Nièvre, Nord, Sarthe, Val-d'Oise).
It is established on the following ground rules:
a) Periodic observations of the landscape's status (pictures and maps);
b) Historic observations (ancient maps and documents);
c) Information and prevention actions.

These types of observatories works side by side, and in a multi-scale way, building a wide and well-oriented documentation with respect to urban and rural structures and infrastructures, and natural areas.

Related to models *number 2 and 3*, is the "*Observatoire Citoyen du Paysage, Inter-environement Vallonie, Namur*". This experience was established to develop people's consciousness of the landscape, with 3 main actions: (i) to give the tools to "decode" and interpret the landscape (for example, through the comparison of historic photos), (ii) to help the people to become landscape "makers" and (iii) to give them the instruments and the knowledge to manage and protect their landscape.

4. The *Blog Model* – It is developed on a very light structure as shown by the examples in London and Rotterdam. Generally it belongs to associations or spontaneous groups of people, which aim to create landscape awareness in the absence of an institution as per the European Landscape Convention. Both London and Rotterdam groups invite citizens to create a gallery to illustrate "*my landscape*" by posting images on the web.
In the London case the "gallery shows some examples of London's landscape, its historic features, land, nature and popular use". On the other hand, the Sustainable Rotterdam association invites users to collect all the news (e.g. books, pictures, and exhibitions) and images about the landscape and to make them available on the web.

These four models are built on the need to understand and monitor landscape transformations, to monitor the protection, management and planning process and to create a forum for exchanging information.
Moreover, we can also say that it is important to have a network of local observatories connected to a regional centre.

In this outline, the creation of a Regional Landscape Observatory (regional department, centre or institute) becomes a useful unit to collect and compare local information, policies and experiences. Its main functions will be:
- to describe the condition of landscapes at a given time;
- to exchange information on policies and experience concerning protection, management and planning, public participation and implementation at different levels;
- to provide data on historical documents (e.g. archives, text, and photographs) and to present data on the socio-economic situation and existing planning instruments;
- to provide data for understanding the present regional land situation as well as the trends of forecast scenarios.

Thus, we can design a new contemporary model of Landscape Observatory, and given that we are in the Tuscany Region, we can try to apply these ideas in line with the recent Regional Law Proposal on Land Control/Management (*L.R. sul Governo del territorio/2013*), in which the role of landscape-monitoring and people's awareness in decision-making is emphasized.
In this context, the Catalan model seems outdated. Thus, considering the present economic situation, a new model of Landscape Observatory must be developed as a light "non- bureaucratic" structure (mainly as a web open-access database) connecting to a dispersed network of local observatories scattered throughout the territory. The local units collect the information and debate the problems related to their territory and landscape with two main objectives: to raise people's awareness through in-depth landscape knowledge and to promote a real democratic participation of people in territorial planning and management.

People's direct actions in local structures will be the soul of the Observatory System in the debate around political decisions (at the different levels).
This democratic participation is possible only if the regional structure becomes the main actor in collecting and disseminating information, and in monitoring landscape transformations. The Observatory must be a kind of "giant" database, always up-to-date, accessible via the web, easy to consult, and absolutely "transparent".

The regional structure must also constitute a "smart" information collection of data/inputs provided by the local units: it must be able to compare the local situations, to implement the information and to be the sentinel of local social frictions. All these functions are necessary to develop, every two years, the observatory report on "The State of the Regional Landscape" which will be the main source of information on the landscape and a fundamental document for planning decisions within the framework of developing, improving and maintaining local and regional policies.

Regional Landscape Observatories in Italy Workshop

The National Observatory for the Quality of Landscape

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First of all I wish to extend a warm welcome to you all on behalf of the Director General Maddalena Ragni. I would also like to express my appreciation and congratulate the organisers for this initiative, which certainly represents a significant moment for gathering together and mutual reflection – considering the wide participation of the representatives of the Regions and the Autonomous Provinces – on such an important theme as the one of Landscape Observatories.
My aim is to first and foremost provide, in the most synthetic and clear way possible, an update on the rather complex and cheerless situation of the national body, and then some reflections regarding the prospective of the latter, obviously open to debate and confrontation.
The National Observatory for the quality of landscape, provided for by art. 133 of the *Codice dei Beni culturali e del Paesaggio* [the National Code for Cultural Heritage and Landscape] was established with the Decree of the *Ministro per i Beni e le Attività culturali* [Minister for Cultural Heritage and Activities] (hereafter DM) of the 15th of March 2006, integrated with the DM January 2008 according to the changes of the new organisational structure of the Ministry implemented through the Regulation issued with the Decree of the President of the Republic (hereafter DPR) of 26 November 2007, n. 233.
The Observatory (for which other Decrees of the Minister issued between September and November 2008 had specified its tasks and composition) was then established in May 2009 and began its activities, which then suffered somewhat due to the necessity of extending the duration of the body - prior to an examination by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers regarding its "utility in the long term" - according to art. 9 of the DPR 14 May 2007, n. 89 "Regulation for the rearrangement of the bodies active within the Ministry for Heritage and Cultural Activities".
Further to its confirmation, and of its extension for another two year period approved with a Decree by the President of the Council of Ministers (hereafter: DPCM) of 9 November 2009, the DM of 18 May 2010 again re-established its tasks and composition.
The latter are defined by paragraph 1 of art.3, according to which the Observatory promotes studies and analyses for elaborating proposals suitable for the definition of policies for the protection and enhancement of the Italian landscape, and in particular, it:
a) proposes the network of the ministerial infrastructures and regional- local structures which, in accordance with the initiatives that elaborate and approve the landscape plans, are in charge of providing to the Observatory itself the data regarding the landscape areas at a regional, interregional and national level, regarding their characteristics, the state of landscape goods, landscape restoration interventions, re qualification and recovery of degraded areas;

b) identifies emblematic case studies and research topics regarding Italian landscapes;
c) proposes methodologies for assessing the landscape values of the Italian territory;
d) proposes the criteria for landscape value;
e) proposes guidelines for drafting projects of architectural quality with an impact on landscape goods;
f) proposes the adoption of parameters and landscape quality objectives and proposes recommendations for the policies of restoration, recovery and landscape re qualification of goods and degraded areas;
g) proposes the methods for identifying landscapes at risk, by analysing the vulnerability factors of the landscape;
h) examines and evaluates the information regarding the dynamics of landscape modifications and the monitoring process regarding large-scale interventions in the landscape;
i) indicates the cases of particular relevance in the sector of protection, enhancement and management of the Italian landscapes to be proposed for the European Landscape Award;
j) elaborates every two years a report on the state of landscape policies.

Paragraph 3 of the same article also provides that the Observatory, when in function, should in particular:
- ensure the connection with the Observatories established in each Region with the same tasks and aims, through the regional Direction offices of the Ministry;
- coordinates its activity with the other Observatories at a national level and with similar organs at a European level.

The additional provisions on the reduction of the public costs have therefore required a new verification of the "utility in the long term" of the body and another extension of its functions (DPCM, 3 August 2011), evidently remarking – together with the well-known variability of the Italian political context that has marked the last two years- a climate in general not at all in favour of a decisive launch of the body, which is still inactive.
The Directorate General for Landscape, Arts, Architecture and Contemporary Art that I am representing today recently submitted to the attention of the new Minister Bray (who has assured his commitment) the necessity of proceeding with the reactivation of the Observatory, which will need to take into account the new circumstances and the experiences that have taken place in the meantime, in particular in the field of landscape planning.
Among such circumstances and experiences, is the first thing to note is the advancement of the work implemented by the co-planning round table meetings between the Ministry and many Regions, during which the awareness of their respective areas has registered a significant increase, and also both the evaluation criteria of the landscapes and the protection and enhancement orientations regarding the landscape (in addition to the decision to provide all the areas with landscape restrictions with specific management regulations, in accordance with art. 140, Paragraph 2 of the Code).
One cannot fail to take into account the other bodies which have in the meantime been active or reactivated, and with which the necessary links need to be established, such as the National Observatory for Rural Landscape established by the Ministry for Agricultural, Forests and Food Policies in November 2012, the Observatory on Renewable Energy Sources of the Ministry for Economic Development or the Working Group on Climate Change activated by the "Environmental Network" that is coordinated by the Ministry for the Environment and the Ministry for Economic Development, bodies in which the Ministry for Cultural Activities and Goods is present and actively committed.
The Directorate General that I am here representing – due to the nature of the tasks assigned – has carried out a de facto coordination, orientation, study and monitoring role at a national level at least in part attributable to the aims of the Observatory: I wish to highlight in particular amongst the actions currently undertaken – all part of the strategic objectives assigned to the structure and in particular of the "protection and quality of the landscape" of which I am in charge –, the research and case studies focussed on the issues of soil consumption, hydro geologic risk (with regard to the prevention and identification of strategies of intervention compatible with landscape values), the definition of "guide-lines" or "good practices" for the right landscape integration of large infrastructures (networks), and the verification of regional law concerning land use according to the orientations and provisions of the Code.
In conclusion, it is relevant to take into account what emerges from the minutes of the meetings that took place in 2009, which record a richness of debate and also a certain difficulty in establishing the details of the organisation and functions of the body perhaps due to its excessive range of tasks.
It would appear that it is possible to conclude, in my opinion, that there is the opportunity, in coinciding with the hopefully imminent reactivation of the Observatory, to rethink its tasks – an action probably consequent to it activation. This new organisation should be accompanied by an operative cut that strengthens the monitoring and verification activities, and orientates these towards the outcomes of landscape planning and some crucial aspects related to it that are evident (for example the procedures of adjustment of spatial planning tools in the landscape plan): a reinforcement which seems more necessary than in the past because of the state of advancement of some – important – new generation plans and their forthcoming approval. This would allow the evaluation of how and to what extent they can assure effectively the "government" of territorial transformations and the achievement of the conservation and quality aims established; all of this, obviously, carried out in the context of maximum coordination possible with the regional Observatories.

The Landscape Plan of the Tuscany Region: an Occasion to Enhance the Knowledge and Awareness of Place

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Keywords
Landscape, planning, landscape regional plan, structural approach, heritage, normative framework.

Introduction

The emergence of participatory mechanisms and the relevance of social perception in the process of territorial government (quality objectives, the territorial statute, structural variants etc.), alongside the typological extension of the protection and promotion of landscape, produced a sudden renewal of planning tools. The planning discipline has also widened its remit with procedures and instruments that fostered a new form of democracy and inclusive planning (at least in its intention), increasingly open to social participation and to safeguarding the constitutive characterises of the territory and the landscape. New planning models include the interactive dimension which in turn generates objectives and actions. These new procedures have even managed to penetrate the normative realm, traditionally the exclusive domain of technical expertise. In this contribution, I will try to explain the path leading to a definition of the Tuscan landscape present in regulations and standards.

1. Structural invariants

The structure of the new landscape plan of the Tuscany Region contains rules both at regional

and at local level.[1] Apart from its rich cognitive description, the plan identifies in the "Structural Invariants" the heart of the normative and regulatory mechanism. The structural invariants are present at the regional level and are elaborated at the local level. The plan identifies four types of invariants with landscape value: hydro-geomorphological characteristics of watersheds and morphogenetic systems; ecosystem characteristics of the landscape; polycentric characteristics of urban settlement systems and infrastructure; and morphotypological and functional characteristics of the agri-environmental systems of rural landscapes.

"The description of the structural invariants defines the state of preservation and / or crisis of the heritage, the rules and the norms that guarantee its safeguarding and reproduction in the face of present and future transformations of the territory, its potential uses and performance as a resource. The identification, description and representation of structural invariants involves the whole region, including its critical, degraded and de-contextualised parts, and not just excellent examples of monuments, settlements, nature and landscape; it also covers cultural and landscape heritage, as specific components of the structural invariants which make the region."[2]

The aim of the four invariants is connected to the local level in three closely related synthetic maps: 1. The territorial and landscape heritage, which synthesise the content of the four structural descriptions and the relationships between them; 2. the heritage values and elements; map of critical issues that synthesises the description of the dynamics of transformation creating negative impacts on the territory and related problems; and finally 3. Landscape quality objectives which summarize and integrate the policy oriented goals emerging from the four structural invariants. The objectives are to support the dynamics of transformation, the course of action in response to the various weaknesses identified and the general strategy of protection and potential use, whether ecological, economic or productive. The sequence of the three maps frames the heritage content of the territorial structure; it defines its state of health and identifies strategies to open up a new phase of coherent valorisation of the territory. The maps are drawn using a visual repertoire of simple and complex graphics whose inter-linkage as in storytelling, illustrating the consistency of heritage, the dynamics of change and the actions to be undertaken according to the quality objectives.

2. Heritage, weaknesses, landscape quality objectives

The heritage description shows the complexity of the structure and the co-evolutionary interaction that produced the territory and its highly complex landscapes. The interwoven system of graphic and pictorial signs helps to appraise which eco-systemic services the landscape could deliver; it should intrigue the observer and lead him/her to re-read the details and appreciate the maps as well as the individual variants therein. In the maps displaying critical areas, sketches show the dynamics, the pressures and the elements of degradation or threat. The map containing objectives is selective and partial, as it shows those heritage elements and portions of the territory treated as a priority for the resolution of critical issues. The map implies an idea of the overall project, which is not a simple resolution of risk factors or impacts, but which instead brings into play the desired dynamics: light arrows cross the territorial system indicating the need for relieving polarised areas (costs, plains, valleys) for the benefit of inland areas in order to reactivate carefully balanced relationships. The river basins regain colour and depth and go back to being the centre of a multipurpose landscape and the ecological backbone of the whole system; the settlement system is represented as a polycentric urban network, fitting in with the need for re qualifying the urban fringe; in the hilly and mountainous areas of Tuscany the central objective is new sustainable development, according to multi-productive farming methods, of many abandoned agricultural areas.

3. Territorial figures and standards

To give more clarity to the proposed actions and communicate them in as clear a manner possible, we use a more detailed imagined standard: the graphic representation of one or more of the actions in a defined territorial context. The so-called 'envisaged standard' is an aid for the observer to localise the action in the territory and place him/herself mentally in a place. The standard is located on a qualitative representation, a 'bird's eye' view, able to communicate the structure, form, and image of the territory. The figure represents the minimum territorial unit in the organization of the landscape context. It emerges in a clear and unambiguous way the form in which the four structural variants are reported in space and how they are uniquely combined, defining a particular territorial identity.

Within this complex representation the areas concerned are located by the actions for obtaining quality objectives. One of these contexts was graphically enlarged and used as an example of good practice to adopt in similar situations. Even in this case the reconfiguration is carried out using a design with colours that enables the observer to grasp the sense of what normative result is being communicated by words. The colouring of the gap between the two urbanised areas simulates a presence of agriculture in the area between Calenzano and Florence, and adds a deep meaning to the definition: "to restore the rural continuity between the Travalle Park and Piana Park". The image creates a reality of what the words merely allude to. The detailed 'envisaged standard' helps possible technical users (technical officers of local or regional bodies) or ordinary users (citizens, student, stakeholders, environmental activists, entrepreneurs, etc.) to better understand the treatment of that portion of the territory, placing it in its structural dimension and in relation to the wider context.

Notes

[1] 2011 saw the activation of the process of landscape integration in the PIT – which is already in the course of completion. Tuscany, as other Italian regions, has chosen to integrate the landscape plan into the territorial plan. The regional landscape plan is compiled by the Tuscany Region and the Inter-University Centre of Territorial Sciences (Cist), made up of the five Tuscan universities (Florence, Pisa, Siena, Superior Normal School and Sant'Anna School).

[2] Magnaghi A. (2012), "Proposte per la ridefinizione delle invarianti strutturali regionali", in Poli D. (ed.), Regole e progetti per il paesaggio. Verso il nuovo piano paesaggistico della Toscana, Florence University Press.

I. Fleishe, *Underground Landscape,* Fourth Edition Peoples Landscapes (*detail*).

L. Micu, *Canary Yellow*, winner section Light in Landscapes, Fourth Edition People's Landscapes

Research in Progress

Landscape Observatories and Participation in Landscape Planning Processes. An Experimental Method to include Community Evaluation

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Keywords: participation, method, observatory, "Anfiteatro Morenico d'Ivrea", scenic assessment, web-survey.

The key ideas

This research method contribution is underpinned by the following key ideas:
- People's involvement in landscape planning processes is no longer just an option, but methods have to be learned and tested so that expert and non-expert views may come together towards a definition of landscape backed by the wider participation of citizens as required by the ELC (as well as many EU and CoE directives and suggestions);
- The costs and time for participatory methods are generally a real limitation to their implementation, due to various kind of difficulties such as the awareness of citizens about landscape issues, implementation and improvement of experimental tools, time needed for elaboration of survey tools and relevant data mining;
- Landscape Observatories supported by university research, developing as partly "informal" institutions, can "fill the gap" between expert and non-expert points of view about landscape, in the perspective of a more widely shared landscape vision and planning/management tools.

Among their aims, Landscape Observatories could specifically focus on catalyzing public participation within planning processes, both due to their usually more informal approach and to their proximity to citizens, thus encouraging their involvement (Observatories' members, usually belonging to the same milieux, have more capability to share site-specific knowledge and "common language" with citizens; see Art. 6, ELC). From the strictly planning perspective, scientific and research fields have quickly developed a variety of quantitative and qualitative tools to describe the landscape, as well as a technical lexicon. These provide a patrimony which is not usually shared with citizens, and does not lead to many practical involvement consequences.

Given such a context, we show our experience of supporting the "Osservatorio del Paesaggio per l' Anfiteatro Morenico di Ivrea" ("OdPAMI", a newly reshaping Observatory in Piedmont) with an experimental process method tool, newly designed by our group ("Percezioni") within the Planning Master degree (PTUPA) of "Politecnico di Torino" aiming to combine "expert" with "non-expert" landscape assessment within the planning process.

A relevant background

Piedmont has a large number of sub-regional Landscape Observatories (7) receiving benefits from the previous ecomuseum experience (since 1995) and with a common strong commitment to territorial planning issues and to supporting civil society and community action groups and asso-

ciations to carry out their initiatives. Moreover, established as associations, in 2006 Piedmont Observatories started up a coordination process with the aim of developing shared issues together.

In the experience reported "OdPAMI" (N-W Piedmont) has a strong planning-focused approach although the methods for its implementation still have to be clearly defined, shared and thus institutionally programmed and implemented. While this research was starting, the OdPAMI was an "arm" (even if relevant) of the wider organization of the "Ecomuseo del Paesaggio di Chiaverano". The present form of the OdPAMI is recent and is also based on this research experience and on the need for the organization to have a more relevant structure.

The suggested method: mixing patterns in a four-step process

The method is organized in the structure described below.
To include the participatory structure in a general planning process, the choice was to develop two mixed patterns: the is the 'place' for deciding the method of public involvement; the refers to the technical tools and the following steps.

The method aims to convert scenic assessment (creating above all a previous "analytic atlas" for definition of types) into cartographical values (via GIS). To always have a chance to be amended, the process needs a clear structure, therefore it was separated into the following steps:
Step 1: for initial insights and preliminary methodological choices, through various "desk analyses", to give a complete frame of "typological elements" to be assessed and how people had to be involved;

Fig. 1. The structure of the method)

Step 2: to define and implement involvement tools and to connect "expert data" and "real perceptions". Designing and diffusing a web-survey and a web-open-map, it is possible to overlap the theoretical evaluation of visibility (with different degrees of relevance) and identification of detractions (i.e. antenna towers, high voltage lines, quarries, industrial areas and buildings) with the survey results (extracted via matrices*) in relation to these two aspects;
Step 3: strategic phase (levels of relevance of "impairment"/"integrity" of areas). Thanks to the information from both sources of the previous step, this phase highlights the relevance in terms of visibility of jeopardized areas (due to the presence of detractions) and the intact areas (i.e. without any detraction); the study moves to a joint interpretation of both aspects surveyed as a means of defining the important points to consider for future developments and projects;
Step 4: operational phase (recommendations and criteria for the evaluation of interventions). Here useful tools were created for evaluation: the "Map of possible transformation capability and interventions needed", connected also to various intervention criteria which have been formalized.

The participatory method was tested for about one month (16 Dec.-14 Jan. 2013) with the above-mentioned OdPAMI and local associations.
The necessity of reducing costs was also obtained through a web-based photographic survey also circulated via posters directing people to a web-site (Blog) and a Facebook page (http://paesaggicondivisi.blogspot.it/; http://www.facebook.com/paesaggicondivisi?fref=ts)[1].

The core role of local Landscape Observatories within landscape planning processes: a look towards the future

Fig. 2. Analytic atlas and poster for advertising and addresses)

Being in its start-up phase, and composed by a heterogeneous team of volunteers, the AMI Landscape Observatory needs to prefigure its role as a participatory facilitator between citizens and planning institutions in the context of planning processes, especially focusing on its role of people's involvement and education about the following issues:

a) strong attention to landscape transformations, helping people to increase their capability to understand landscape transformations;
b) capability of questioning modern landscape transformations and to suggest alternative scenarios for landscape, according to individual and collective "shared aspirations". Meanwhile the whole process was effective and appropriate for those purposes and for investing the OdPAMI with a double role:
1) as the centre of the network of associations already linked together and well known as useful for a better delivery of the survey (posters and mail lists) and to give it a structure more shared by the action groups;
2) as leader of the process itself, given that OdPAMI is an organization with a wide remit, appropriate to support the range of issues coexisting in the landscape.

Moreover, as required generally by the core of participation, the Observatory represents a "half way" institution - well regarded by citizens, but also recognized by higher tiers of government.

Final considerations

First, the limited time used to test the tools cannot give us a completely accurate result, but the exercise has been useful to prove that the participatory method can be used for a vast area in a limited period, while also receiving a tremendous backing by citizens. Furthermore, web-based surveys could exclude important portions of the population (older people and those who are not able to access the web) that are representative of different perceptions of a place (25% of 104 total answers are over 65).
Moreover a second consideration can be made about the importance of the support given by experts from academia: such a link does not exist in the Observatory.
For this reason, networks and links with the technical world should always be provided in such an organization to maintain a defined frame of action. While not always possible, this can be achieved by stimulating interest for the area to involve interested researchers.

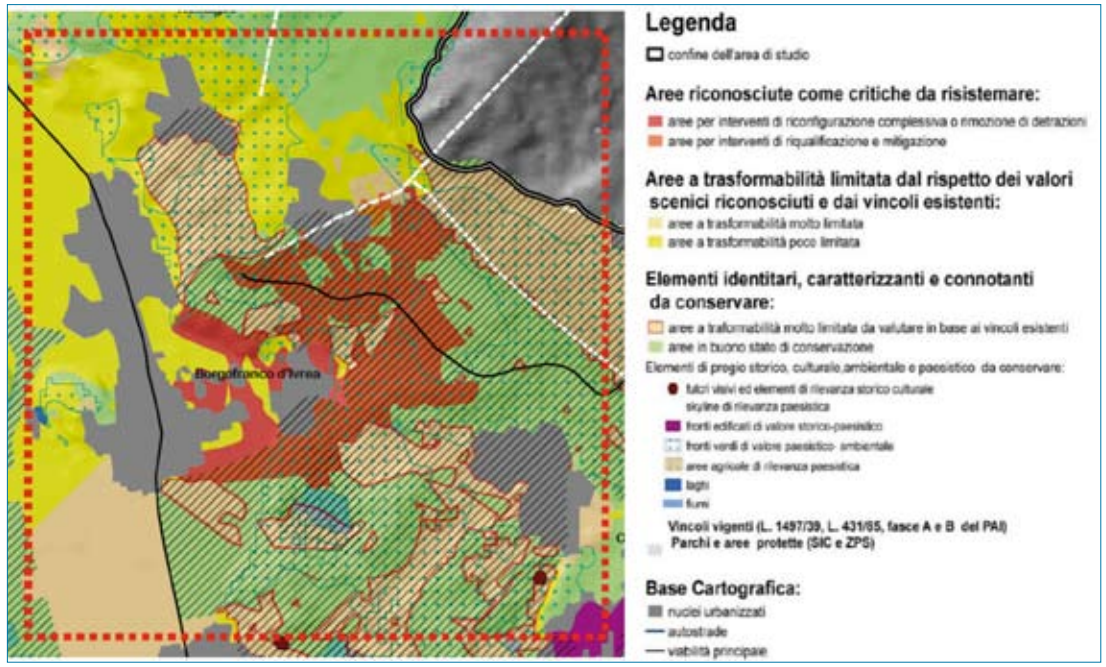

Fig. 3. "Map of Transformation and Intervention Capability")

After a testing period, such an approach can be envisaged leading to "plan hypothesis revision" by citizens under the supervision of Observatories.

Note

[1] For further informations please consult the authors (ref. full report " Costruiamo insieme il Paesaggio dell' AMI: un metodo per la partecipazione e la valutazione degli aspetti scenici percettivi", PARTE 3 "Strumenti partecipativi territoriali per il miglioramento e la gestione dell'assetto percettivo").

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Guidelines for the Establishment of Local Landscape Observatories

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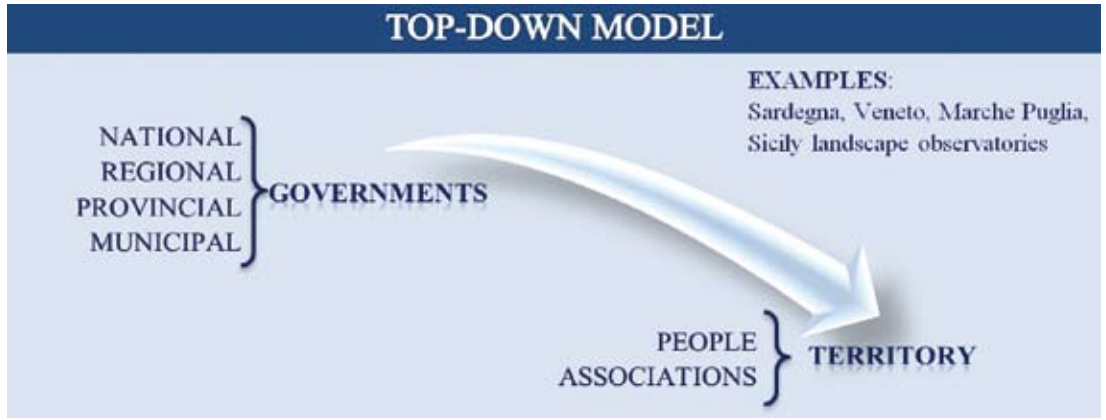
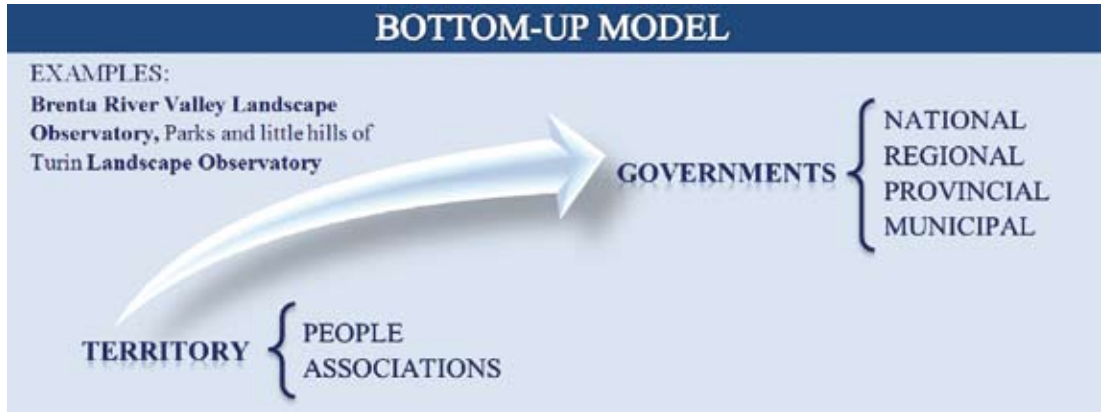
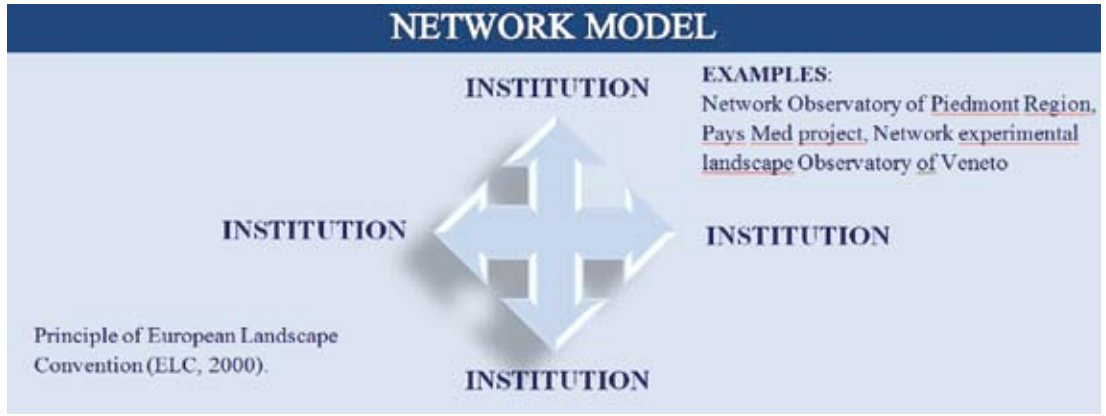
Keywords: knowledge; consciousness; sharing; participation; action.

The European Landscape Convention (ELC) not only promotes the development of landscape policies in the whole territory, but states that all citizens should have an active role in the transformation processes of the landscapes in which they live. In this perspective, the Observatories can represent a helpful tool to cope with the need for protection, restoration, and enhancement of the landscape, as they are able to connect scientific research and citizens at the same time.

Moreover, since citizens are able to control the evolution of landscape, they can also offer useful hints to build or update Landscape Plans, thus contributing to steering away from the current consumerist and destructive use of the land.
From the experiences analysed through this investigation, it is possible to classify Landscape Observatories into three models, based on the type of promoter-coordinator, the type of relationship that they establish on the territory and among themselves. The need for models stems from the necessity to find, in the heterogeneous ensemble of existing Observatories, the factors determining or impeding success, which would then allow for a greater consciousness of the role that this innovative tool can play in the territory.
In the first model, denoted *top-down*, the administrations coordinate the Observatories, and sometimes include them in the planning process. The individual inhabitants and/or their associations are requested to evaluate the landscape quality of their living environments and to notify the administration of their possible degradation. In this model, which is quite bureaucratic-administrative, and is typical of the central and regional Observatories, the objectives are set by the "expert know-how", and their controlling and intervening activities, as well as their functions, are generally homogeneous in the various fields. The regional Observatories of Sardinia, Veneto, Marche and Puglia belong to this class of model. The Observatory of Sicily would seem to belong to this class too, but it is not fully operative yet.
The second model is denoted *bottom-up*, and includes those Observatories, often local and "spontaneously" established, which are created and managed by individuals and/or associations sensitive to landscape issues. These Observato-







ries often have a successful outcome, as they are created with social or cultural objectives in mind, in order to promote the protection and the enhancement of their own territory, coping with the shortcomings of the local administrations. These Observatories are based on a participation model, according to which the involvement of the citizens (from the bottom) and in which the "expert know-how" interacts with the people's "diffused know-how". This model has an open structure, its objectives stem from a shared project, and its functions are diversified according to the nature and the problems of each field and design activity. The Piedmont and Canale di Brenta Observatories belong to this model.

The third model, denoted *network*, is inspired by the principles of cooperation established by the ELC, and implies the involvement and the cooperation of various entities of any nature (usually institutional), which have a common interest in the landscape. These Observatories are characterised by an open technical-administrative structure, with interaction between the "expert know-how" and the people's "diffused know-how", by working usually at the interregional level, and by objectives stemming from a shared project. The decisional process is horizontal, democratic and participation-based. The activities, usually of a design nature, refer to the indications of the network; objectives and processes are diversified according to the characteristics and the problems of each field. Finally, by sharing all information in the network, it is possible to implement the knowledge of each by means of everyone's experience. Among the most successful examples of this model includeThe Observatory Network of the Piedmont Region, the Pays Med Project, the European Observatory for the Landscape, and the Experimental Network of the Landscape Observatories of the Veneto Region.

The heterogeneous nature of the Observatories shows that these tools, particularly those acting at the local level, are not supported by exhaustive legislation. Moreover, they are not yet officially recognized as being fundamental for the protection, planning and management of the landscape at the national and regional level. While waiting for such legislation to come into being, the elaboration of Guidelines for a Local Landscape Observatory aims at designing a new generation of Observatories which, based on the knowledge acquired by means of research, are able to establish general principles, recommendations, strategic choices and orientations, able to establish the essential elements of the new structure. These guidelines were developed in the form of a decalogue, and are briefly reported below.

1. Definition

The Observatories are centres of thought and action on the landscape for the application of the ELC. They are laboratories of ideas and projects, contributing to the formation and the development of "landscape culture". They are key tools for the transfer of knowledge and principles of landscape planning.

2. Aims and Objectives

To protect, restore and enhance the landscape, based on three fundamental principles: knowledge, consciousness, sharing (Noguè, 2009).

3. Level of Application

Sub-regional, limited to the territorial level, i.e., limited to areas homogeneous with respect to natural and cultural characteristics.

4. Structure

Can have the structure of a consortium, regulated by public and private entities.

5. Participants

May be public (Superintendence Organs, Provinces, Municipalities, Local Institutions, Civil Protection, Universities, Research Centres, Schools) or private (Associations, Foundations, Professional Associations).

6. Professional Figures Involved

Being a complex and multidisciplinary subject, the landscape involves several professional figures including: agronomists, researchers in natural science, anthropologists, landscape architects, teachers at every level, landscape ecologists, geologists, engineers, lawyers, territorial planners, town planners, managers of the public administration, researchers, sociologists, experts in public participations, historians of territory and landscape.

7. Functions

The aims of the Observatories can be accomplished through: training, education, divulgation, listening, monitoring of landscape transformations, decision support, promotion of awareness, enhancement, exploitation, action, participation, shared project planning.

8. Activities

Can be structures mainly in the form of projects: professional development courses, education in the culture of landscape in schools, questionnaires, focus groups, competitions and exhibitions, web portals, monitoring.

9. Relationship with Territorial, Town Planning and Sectorial Planning

Landscape Observatories provide valuable assistance to territorial landscape planning, as they play a consulting, proposing and collaborating role aimed at the implementation of the ELC.

10. Code of Reference

International norms and recommendations, national laws and decrees, regional norms.

According to Zagari (2011), "whenever a community creates a Landscape Observatory in a given region, there is a tangible sign of diffused cultural sensitivity and of civic maturity". This requires the collaboration of several entities at several levels, and it also assumes education and awareness of the landscape. The Observatories shall therefore not only be the consequence of a mature and civilised society, but also one of the most suitable tools for establishing this civilised society. This is certainly a long and complex journey, and a continuingly improved knowledge of the processes of protection, recovery and enhancement is required. However, "a pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity; an optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty", and has the courage to take advantage of it.

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Landscape Observatories: Perspectives for the Urban Landscape?

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Abstract

During my PhD research, which dealt with the integration of landscape into today's urban planning and design, an analysis of how different cities are tackling the issue reveals that we need to innovate: - the "data" on which our planning and design actions can be developed; - the traditional process of planning and design in order to allow actors to create congruence between the goals of development - which should include goals of landscape quality - and the operative expression of these goals into projects. Among the different tools that were developed to preserve, manage and enhance the urban landscape, two specific urban landscape observatories are of interest: the Observatorio municipal sobre la demanda, el uso y el reconocimiento social de los espacios libres provided by the Plan de Calidad del Paisaje Urbano de la Ciudad de Madrid and the Virtual Observatory of the Mediterranean Urban Landscape. Following these examples, could a specific Urban Landscape Observatory help to preserve, manage and enhance the urban landscape and increase awareness of its features? If yes, how?

Keywords: Landscape observatories, urban landscape, urban planning and design.

The ELC highlights the importance of integrating landscape into regional and town planning policies. To integrate the landscape into town planning and design is a complex and hotly-debated issue, even for its inevitable trans-disciplinary, multi-scale and multi-actor nature. The richness of theoretical and operative development of urban landscape is ascertained in some planning tools that have been developed in several cities in Europe (such as Lyon, Madrid, London, Paris, Rotterdam), that are tackling the issue of managing urban transformations. The analysis of these cases highlights that to integrate landscape into urban planning and design we need to innovate the data on which to develop plans and projects, and to innovate procedural aspects. Dealing with landscape leads to the identification of *ad hoc* subjects - such as specific administrative sectors and commissions – in order to engage inter-disciplinary skills and to activate processes of population involvement in various forms and phases.

While there is a certain acquisition of methods and methodologies that can investigate useful elements to work on the urban landscape[1], the tools and procedures to integrate landscape knowledge in planning and design processes, as well as the involvement and awareness-raising of the population, are to be decided. Among different tools, specific urban landscape observatories are of interest: the *Observatorio municipal sobre la demanda, el uso y el reconocimiento social de los espacios libres* provided by the *Plan de Calidad del Paisaje Urbano de la Ciudad de Madrid*[2] and the *Virtual Observatory of the Mediterranean Urban Landscape.*[3] Although Madrid's Observatory has not yet been established and the Virtual Observatory refers to a concluded project, these cases highlight implications and possible applications in using specific urban landscape observatories to preserve, manage and enhance urban landscapes.

The aim of Madrid's Plan is to define and reshape the image of the city by defining recommendations, programs and projects. For its implementation, the Plan foresees the establishment of an Urban Quality Commission and Office, and an Observatory. The Urban Quality Commission (*Comisión de Calidad Urbana*) has an advisory status with the functions of management, planning and coordination of the city's planning and design. The Commission is composed of representatives from municipal entities and professionals and is superordinate to CIPHAN Commission (*Comisión Institutional para la protección del Patrimonio Histórico Artistico y Natural*). To support Commission work, the Plan has established an Urban Quality Office and an Observatory entitled *Observatorio municipal sobre la demanda, el uso y el reconocimiento social de los espacios libres*. As set down in the Plan, the Observatory's aim is to incorporate the perspectives and needs of the users within the planning and design of public urban spaces. The observatory is thus both a technical tool of analysis and divulgation of general problems and practices linked to public space and the citizen's perception of it. Within the Plan, the observatory's specific tasks of analysis, evaluation and monitoring are defined. The observatory has to draw up reports on the use of public spaces, users and utilities in the AURAS's areas of intervention[4], using social-perception indicators. Included in this report, specific analysis and recommendations for design criteria and functionality of urban furniture is foreseen. After the intervention, the observatory has to report on the social and urban impact of the transformation.

The Virtual Observatory, developed by the PAYS. MED.URBAN project, aims to create a shared system of recognition and observation of urban and peri-urban Mediterranean landscapes, in order to identify issues and transformation processes that they are facing. Each country partner in the project has selected specific observation points from which problems and transformation processes of the urban landscape can be visible. For each observation point a common framework to describe and interpret, based on photographic support, is given. On top of the identification of the urban typology, the scenario and the geo-

graphic location, positive and negative values of the visible landscape are highlighted[5]. To these descriptive contents are added a more detailed photographic analysis and recommendations of management.

Even though the two cases illustrated are characterized by different approaches, both the observatories are action-oriented thanks to the settings of criteria and recommendations for facing problems and pursuing goals of landscape quality. In reference to the issues that the urban landscape poses (highly transformative dynamics and high density of "demand/need of landscape"), the cases in question develop a certain complementarity. Madrid's Observatory focuses on public spaces and on the integration of perspectives and needs of citizens in public space planning and design, involving them in a specific way. The Virtual Observatory instead adopts a broader perspective of the city that may also relate to the whole city, by framing problematic issues that are related to specific transformational processes thanks to the photographic tool. Both approaches are useful and recall problems of management and transformation of the urban landscape, starting from the main elements that characterize it and its perception: the structure and the image of the city, with its aesthetic and meaningful relevance, and the public space. For both observatories it is still rather unclear how to carry out the monitoring phase and how make their work effective, the latter being strictly dependent on the integration of their role in the process of city planning and design, as well as on the political will and the technical possibility of involving the communities in the process of knowledge building. Even if the Madrid case is still not finalized, it shows that the efficiency of the observatory has to be guaranteed thanks to a wider innovation of procedure in which specific commissions and offices are established to create congruence between development goals - which has to include goals of landscape quality - and concrete design actions, as well as feedback.

Notes

[1] Such as: methodologies of inquiry that focus on the visual component of landscape; the definition and identification of urban identity elements; the definition and recognition of areas and places where the urban landscape can be appreciated and enhanced; the establishment of commissions for managing and checking that the urban development projects are congruent with established goals of landscape quality; the integration between the different sectors and disciplines involved in the shaping of the urban landscape.

[2] The establishment of the Plan began in 2005. In 2008 the Plan was terminated and in 2009 the Urban Quality Commission approved it. The Plan was designed by the Studio ME(C)SA of Madrid.

[3] The Virtual Observatory is one of the 6 key actions developed by the PAYS.MED.URBAN project, Med Programme 2007-2013 (www.paysmed.net/pays-urban/).

[4] Madrid's Plan defines 12 different programs. AURA's programs (Actuaciones urbanas de Recualificación Ambiental) have been developed for several areas in the city. For each area the program highlights design criteria and proposes a project to restore and enhance the urban landscape through urban design actions, setting building colours and criteria for the commercial flooring, advertisements and lighting.

[5] As urban typologies are considered: the metropolitan areas, the large cities, the medium cities, the small cities and the rural areas. As sceneries: the free suburban areas, the rural-urban interface, urban access, external urban views, urbanisations, areas for business. As geographic locations: plains, hills and mountains.

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Italian Landscape Observatories Between Rules and Practice

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Introduction

Article 9, paragraph 2 of the Italian Constitution protects the country's landscape and historical and artistic heritage. Article 117, paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Constitution, is geared towards the protection of the environment, the ecosystem and cultural heritage on the one hand, and to increasing the value of this environmental and cultural heritage, as well as promoting and organising cultural events, on the other. Article 131 of the Code of Cultural and Landscape Heritage safeguards, protects and enhances the landscape "as regards those aspects and characteristics which constitute material and visible representation of national identity, as an expression of cultural values". All the provisions of the European Landscape Convention are geared towards the protection, management and planning of landscapes in Europe. It is clearly evident how the topic of landscape has acquired central importance not only in the Italian legal system but all over Europe.

In 1948, the year in which the Italian Constitution was written, "landscape" became recognised as an absolute value and fundamental principle of the Republic: therefore, the mere promotion of heritage of the landscape was no longer sufficient; action was required to protect it.

However, the perspective of analysing the landscape has changed from 1948 to today.

Initially the meaning of the term "landscape" was close to "natural beauty", or rather "individual beauty and beauty of the whole" , bringing out the aesthetic and panoramic meaning of the term, but as the years went by the term "landscape" was used to include "a wider notion, not limited to natural beauty to be conserved, but intended as the shape and aspect of the land", "as a continuous interaction between nature and man, as the shape of the environment and, therefore, as a natural environment modified by man" : in essence "a cultural-identity consideration" of "landscape" emerged.

The definition of landscape was modified again with the advent of the European Landscape Convention, which is implemented in the whole territory of the participating States, including natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas, consisting of land and also internal and marine waters, landscapes which may be considered outstanding, ordinary or even degraded.

In essence, "the landscapes subject to attention, care and intervention from European civil authority, which have ratified the European Landscape Convention, need not only be outstanding landscapes, but also ordinary ones and even devastated ones"; this implies a united vision of landscape which will be the subject of intervention by European States "regardless of how beautiful or ugly they may be": ultimately, the beauty of landscape is not noticed, whether it is outstanding or exceptional, but rather only the shape of the territory and the environment are taken into consideration, considered in all their visual manifestations and as a result of the action of natural and/or human factors and of their interrelation, as well as how they are perceived by the local population, which is a source of specific values of identity.

The variation in the notion of landscape implies acknowledging its greater importance for local populations, which carry out important functions of general, cultural, ecological, environmental and social interests, and at the same time establish a resource which is favourable for commercial activity, because, as underlined by the Convention's Preamble, if protected, managed and planned, it could contribute to the creation of more jobs.

In order to plan and then implement policies for the protection, management and planning of landscape, the Council of Europe, with the 2008 guidelines, specified the contents of the European Landscape Convention and suggested that the States parties involved adopt one or more "instruments for landscape policies", among which are listed the so-

called "landscape observatories". According to the guidelines, the landscape observatories' main objective is to favour continued observation of the territory, as well as the establishment of a forum for the exchange of landscape information. These should allow the observation of landscape on the basis of appropriate studies, using a wide array of indicators; they should facilitate the collection and exchange of information on protection, management and planning policies, including relevant practical experience; they should also be independent organisations or part of a larger system of observation, which can be created as national, regional or local organisations.
Ultimately the Landscape Observatories, as drafted in the 2008 guidelines, are configured to be the most important instruments in monitoring the transformation of the territory and of information exchange regarding the landscape: centres of research and collaboration among scientists, professionals and technicians, as well as an opportunity for public institutions and individuals to meet and share information. It is precisely the theme of participation and involving the local population in the definition and realisation of the policies of protection, management and planning of European landscapes which make the observatory the most useful and efficient instrument for strengthening the identity of these populations, who recognise themselves in their surroundings.
At a European level the high value given to the Landscape Observatories has indeed been perceived as such, and, as a consequence, genuinely active and operational observatories have been created (for example, the Observatory of Catalonia); however in Italy little has been done on this front.
Even though Article 133 of the Code of Cultural and Landscape Heritage mentions the National Landscape Observatory as well as the Observatories established in each Region, as instruments suitable for setting up studies, analyses and proposals regarding the landscape, often in practice such instruments have not been used. Regarding the National Observatory, established by the Ministry of Cultural Heritage, it is evident how this instrument of landscape protection has been inactive and has not produced any useful results; regarding the Regional observatories on the other hand, there has been some progress, since, in 2009 there were only three operational Regional Observatories (Abruzzo, Calabria and Sardinia), established in accordance with Article 133, three more are now in operation (Veneto, Umbria and Puglia).
We can add the Marche Observatory to these; it was not established under the aforementioned article but it is responsible for activities relating to landscape and territory observation; also the virtual Observatory in Emilia-Romagna which has produced 35 descriptions of the regional landscape, and the virtual Observatory in Basilicata which represents a key part of the PAYS. MED.URBAN project; the Observatories in Lombardy and Tuscany, in the planning stage and initial planning stage respectively; finally, numerous private Observatories, created thanks to the drive from local populations, mainly set up as associations or consortiums, aimed at promoting and enhancing the territory (for example the observatories in Piedmont).
It is well-known that public institutions are moving in the right direction regarding landscape, having set up other regional Observatories, even if the results attained so far are rather modest and a long way from those achieved by the famous Landscape Observatory in Catalonia, advisory body of the regional government in Catalonia which represents a positive model for action which should be accurately reproduced in other locations. This paper aims to give a panorama of the Italian situation regarding public Landscape Observatories, analysing regulatory documents used to establish them and the operational results attained, without overlooking an accurate comparison with the above-mentioned Catalan Observatory.

National Observatory for the quality of the Landscape

Article 133 of the Code of Cultural and Landscape Heritage provides that the Ministry and the regions shall define together the policies for conservation and enhancement of the landscape, as a cultural value, also taking into account studies, analyses and proposals by the national Observatory for the quality of the landscape and the regional Observatories.

The National Observatory for the quality of the Landscape was established with a decree (15th March 2006) from the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activity, which defined the make up, structure and original functions of the Observatory.
This decree has been modified many times in an attempt to arrive at a complete version in the ministerial decree of 25th September 2008, the purpose of which was to give the National Observatories more effective tasks in protecting, planning and increasing the value of the landscape, as well as studies and analyses aimed at the architectural quality of projects relating to works and interventions which affect landscape heritage.
In this decree, article 2 provides that the National Observatory has a President and Vice-President, respectively the Minister for Cultural Heritage and Activity and the Director General for the Quality and Protection of Landscape, Architecture and Contemporary Art, one regional director from the Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Environmental Conservation, two other directors from the Directorate-General for the Quality and Protection of Landscape, Architecture and Contemporary Art, three representatives from territorial and local bodies, three representatives from environmental protection agencies, one representative appointed by the National Council of Architects, and finally four particularly accomplished landscape and landscape planning experts; other individuals, representatives from institutions and associations, university professors and other respected researchers can be called to take part in the Observatory activities when necessary.
According to Article 2 the members of the Observatory remain in their post for four years and are appointed by decree from the Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activity; their participation at Observatory meetings does not entitle them to a salary or attendance fee, they cannot claim expenses or allowances of any kind.
The responsibilities that the members of the Observatory are asked to carry out according to Article 3 are, essentially, promotion, research and analysis regarding suitable proposals for the definition of policies of protection and increasing the value of the Italian landscape. In particular, the Observatory has the task of proposing evaluation methodologies for the landscape values of the Italian territory and consequently criteria for enhancing the landscape; proposing the adoption of parameters and objectives regarding landscape quality and suggesting the direction of landscape restoration, renovation and requalification policies of degraded heritage and areas; examining and evaluating information regarding the dynamics of landscape modification; proposing a network of ministerial, regional and local organisations, delegated to supply the Observatory with information regarding the landscape and its characteristics at a regional, interregional and national level, and the condition of the landscape heritage; identifying cases of particular relevance regarding protection, management and increasing the value of the Italian landscape to be nominated for the "European Landscape Award"; finally, to write a report on the conditions of landscape policy every two years.
In essence therefore, the National Observatory must undertake to be the connection between the Regional Observatories, coordinating its own activities with those of the other organisations and with those of other similar European bodies in order to obtain a more effective conservation and enhancement of the Italian landscape. In practice however the National Observatory has not carried out these functions, as, according to Article 2 of the decree from the Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activity, dated 13th October 2010, the current members have exceeded the length of their term in office, as stated in Article 1, paragraph 1 of the Prime Ministerial decree dated 9th November 2009, which set out the terms for members until 2011. At the moment therefore, in the absence of any regulation which allows the nomination of new members of the National Observatory, we must consider that the body continues to exist, but without real members, the consequence of

which is that the organisation is neither duly operational nor functioning.

Regional landscape Observatories

Article 133 of the Code of Cultural and Landscape Heritage, when mentioning regional Observatories, seems to assume that they have already been created in each region: that is not the case. Few Italian regions have landscape Observatories established according to the above-mentioned Article 133 and which are actually operational; and, in any case, the Observatories which have been established have not yet reached the same operational capacity of the well-known Catalan Observatory.

This Observatory stands out as it is the main instrument for increasing awareness of the Catalan landscape; it is the connection between the Catalan Government, local authorities, universities and Catalan society in general, the focus for studies, research and monitoring of the evolution of the Catalan landscape. It was established on 30th November 2004 and was organised as a public consortium: with a constitution, regularly published in the official Catalan journal, and mentioned in the Catalan Act for the Protection, Management and Planning of the Landscape; it is directed and administered by an executive committee.

From 2005 until a few years ago it mainly dealt with identifying and cataloguing the Catalan landscape; it has recently adopted a new approach, known as CATPAISATGE 2020, arranged in 10 different research areas which are roughly based on the following aims: to create an international landscape, beginning with the individuality of specific places; to create areas where the quality of life for those who live there is high; to promote the landscape in order to increase the attractiveness of the areas and the commercial activities found there; to transform ordinary places into landscapes full of meaning and cultural identity for the local population.

The functions of the Catalan Observatory are still anchored in the following objectives: to establish criteria for the adoption of measures for protection, management and planning of the landscape; to establish criteria to set objectives for landscape quality and the necessary measures for reaching said objectives; to establish efficient ways to monitor the evolution of the landscape and to measure its improvement and/or restoration; to promote society's awareness about the value of the landscape; to stimulate fruitful academic and scientific collaboration on the landscape and to prepare studies, reports, seminars, courses and conferences on this topic; to follow European initiatives and to create a centre for documentation which is open to all those interested.

The activities carried out so far by the Catalan Observatory range from producing landscape catalogues to collaborating with the Council of European to create a European system for landscape information; from increasing the information contained in the centre for documentation to the publication of numerous scientific papers; from the creation of a photographic archive to collaboration with other public institutions for the setting up of projects to protect individual Spanish landscapes (for example, the Cross-border landscape plan of Vall Cerdana).

But the most important activity is perhaps that of producing a report on the state of the landscape in Catalonia every four years, which is presented to Parliament by the Catalan government, and that of preparing educational material for Secondary Schools, aimed at making young people aware of the benefits of landscape protection: the Observatory is notable also for the participation of local people in the creation of landscape catalogues.

In conclusion, it is evident that the activities carried out by the Catalan Observatory have been done so efficiently and as a result it has become the benchmark for other similar organisations in Europe.

The few Italian regional Observatories are slowly increasing their activities regarding the landscape. Beginning with those established first, some examples of these regional Observatories are: Abruzzo, Calabria and Sardinia.

The Abruzzo Observatory was established by regional law in May 2006, a modification of regional law of February 2003, as the regional centre for documentation, with the task of promoting projects for landscape, architecture and urban culture and actions in the territory.

The Observatory provides information through constant monitoring and cataloguing of data on the dynamics of the modification of the landscape, providing archives by area: to promote studies, projects, research and analysis of vulnerability factors directed at landscape awareness, protection and safeguarding of its historical and cultural value.

The organisational structure includes a coordinator who is the Director General for Parks, Environment, Territory and Energy, a committee whose members are public managers, representatives from the four provinces in Abruzzo and representatives from the four provincial Orders of Architects, and also a technical secretary.

Up to the present the activities carried out by the Abruzzo Observatory have been rather scarce since, apart from the organisation of a few landscape conferences and the photography competition "Paesaggi del Tempo" (Landscapes of Time), the initiatives concern the creation of an archive for minor cultural heritage and a landscape atlas, which includes the hills and mountains of Pescara, San Giovanni Teatino, Teramo, L'Aquila and the internal valleys.

The Calabria Regional Observatory, established under regional law 14/2006, modification of regional law 19/2002, has similar responsibilities to the one in Abruzzo, having been assigned the task of promoting specific actions for asserting a policy for protecting and enhancing the Calabrian landscape in accordance with national regulations and those of the European Landscape Convention and the Calabrian Landscape Charter.

The only differences from the Abruzzo model concern the decision expressed by Calabria to adhere to RECEP-ENELC and to follow their own Landscape Charter, as well as to make the functions of the Observatory more explicit. This includes organising field studies related to the natural, cultural and human values of landscape; it must catalogue the landscape through images; it must achieve landscape quality objectives; it must define the units of landscape in order to draft landscape plans and, finally, it has the task of starting the process of participation by the involvement of the local population in decisions regarding the direction of landscape projects.

In essence, the Calabria Observatory assumes the functions closely connected to the Calabria Landscape Charter, making the regulations of the European Landscape Convention concrete and, therefore, more specific functions compared to those of the Abruzzo Observatory.

Finally, the third Observatory, the Sardinian one, was established by regional resolution 50/22 on 5/12/2006, in accordance with regional law 8/2004, with the aim of creating a specialised organisation to carry out study and research in territorial planning related to the transformation, protection and enhancement of the characteristics typical of the Sardinian landscape.

The Sardinian Observatory presents itself as an instrument for the periodical updating and implementing of the regional landscape plan, through its activity of constant monitoring and comparison of urban planning, both in general and in practice.

Three newly established Observatories have been added to these three original organisations (in accordance with Article 133 of the Code of Cultural and Landscape Heritage) in Veneto, Umbria and Puglia.

The Veneto Regional Observatory was established by Article 9 of regional law 10/2011, which integrates regional law article 45f from regional law 11/2004. This regulation provides that the Veneto Observatory is established according to Article 133 of the Code and is part of the structure of the regional committee: consequently it does not amount to a separate organisation from

the public body. In particular, the Regional Committee Resolution 824/2012 organised its make up and operation, establishing that: a) the Observatory is registered with the Directorate of Urban Planning and Landscape, it is managed by the landscape services manager and it has a technical-scientific secretary; b) the Observatory is made up of a scientific committee and the Director of the Regional Cultural Heritage Department takes part in the meetings along with other public managers, universities, bodies, foundations and associations, subject to signing an agreement (Memorandum of Understanding - to date, the University of Padova and the IUAV of Venice have signed) and with a function of cultural and scientific support; c) the functions of the Observatory are summarised in the ten points of the "Manifesto di Verona".

Among its functions, which can be subdivided into proposals and monitoring, we can also mention study, information collection and formulation of proposals to determine landscape quality objectives: the Observatory should also collaborate with other public bodies in order to conserve and increase the value of the landscape. The priorities for 2012-2014 can be summarised as follows: establish an information collection archive; begin monitoring the transformation of the regional landscape; set guidelines for the production of a technical regional reference book; express an opinion on regional works from a landscape point of view; coordinate experimental Landscape Observatories. The activities of the Veneto Observatory are subject to annual checks and periodically published on the website and the "Quaderni dell'Osservatorio regionale per il paesaggio": finally, the establishment of the experimental local Observatories is worthy of note (Dolomiti, Graticolato Romano, Pianura Veronese, ecc.) and the regional network of Landscape Observatories, established by Regional Committee Resolution 826/2012 and 118/2013, which allows the Regional Observatory to extend its activity all over the territory and to operate in close contact with the various situations in Veneto.

The Umbria Regional Observatory was established by Presidential Decree from the Regional Committee 90/2011, according to Article 22 of regional law 13/2009 and Article 133 of the Code.

Operating in the field of regional direction planning, innovation and competitiveness in Umbria, the Observatory is responsible for research, collection and publication of the landscape information obtained and to operate in collaboration with other public landscape bodies. It must also, in close collaboration with the Environmental and Territorial Information System, formulate proposals to guide policy-making on protection and enhancing the landscape through awareness, study and analysis of landscape-territory transformations and of developmental tendencies.

These actions are mainly aimed at increasing both landscape sensitivity and culture and at creating a homogenous technical platform of understanding and evaluation, attempting to increase the value of the quality of the Umbria landscape at the same time.

The main functions of the Umbria Observatory, set out in Regional Committee Resolution 1142/2011, can be summarised as follows: a) awareness of the Umbria landscape; b) information, training, awareness and documentation; c) support for the upgrading of regional government instruments; d) monitoring and three-yearly reports.

In reality, the Observatory has carried out the following operational activities so far: publication of an itinerary of the old Via Flaminia in Umbria, archaeological papers, house censuses, historical dwellings, abbeys and Benedictine sites; organisation of the photography competition "*L'Umbria e I suoi paesaggi*" (Umbria and its Landscapes) and the working group for the awareness and information on landscape protection, drafting of the landscape contract for the definition of sustainable landscape development strategies and management of the "*Il nostro Tevere*" project (Our Tiber); support for compliance with the *Piano Reglatore Generale* (Building Plan) and the *Piano Territoriale di Coordinamento Provincale* (Provincial Territorial Plan) and the *Piano Paesaggistico Regionale* (Regional Landscape Plan); finally, a three-yearly report is being drafted on the state of the effects of landscape and territorial planning. As far as the Puglia Observatory is concerned, it is sufficient to highlight that the organisation was established by regional law 20/2009, Article 3, paragraph 1, according to Article 133 of the Code of Cultural and Landscape Heritage.

Its functions, according to Article 4 of the above-mentioned regional law, are both information-based and practical, aimed at the conservation, use and awareness raising of the Puglia landscape, following appropriate quality objectives and at the requalification and reconstruction of compromised or degraded landscapes, as well as raising awareness and mobilising the people of Puglia on this issue.

In particular, the Observatory has the task of: conducting studies, analysis and research on landscape; making proposals for the definition of policies of conservation and awareness raising regarding the landscape; favouring and facilitating information exchange between public bodies, universities, the professional sector and the National Observatory; promoting awareness-raising with the people in Puglia; carrying out constant monitoring of the territory; attending to the updates of the Puglia Heritage Charter; and writing a yearly report on the state of landscape policy.

As with the other Regional Observatories, the one in Puglia is not a legal body in itself, but rather it is a regional office which operates in close collaboration with the centre of documentation, management and awareness-raising of Puglia Cultural Heritage: it makes use of the support of a committee of experts, made up of professionals with wide experience in this field.

Unlike the other Observatories however, it is closely linked to the aims of the *Piano Paesaggistico Territoriale della Regione* (Territorial Landscape Plan), carrying out constant monitoring in order to update and modify said plan where necessary.

In conclusion, besides the six above-mentioned Regional Observatories, all of which were established according to Article 133 of the Code, there are others which have not been set up following these regulations or which, at least, do not carry out all the functions laid down by the European Landscape Convention and the guidelines from 2008: in particular, we are referring to the observatories in Marche, Emilia-Romagna and Basilicata.

The first, perhaps the most important of the three, was not established according to Article 133 (but refers to Article 1 of regional law 35/1999) and, compared to an observatory intended as a body, seems to be a mere landscape and territory observation activity, carried out in the Marche Region: this activity has produced a landscape photography campaign and two atlases on soil erosion in the region.

The second and third observatories share the fact that they are both virtual organisations: the Emilia-Romagna Observatory, established by regional law n. 23/2009, has produced 35 descriptions of regional landscapes, seen from various privileged points of view in the region, and for having published a scientific journal "*Paesaggi in divenire*" (Changing Landscapes); the observatory in Basilicata however, has been a key instrument in the PAYS.MED.URBAN project, having chosen 12 observation points representative of urban, peri-urban and agricultural situations under transformation, which are recorded in the territory, and of other areas in the landscape of Basilicata.

Conclusions

It has been ascertained that the activities of the Regional Landscape Observatories in Italy cannot be equated to those carried out in the Catalonia Observatory: neither for the legal status nor for the actual functions carried out by this Observatory in the Catalana territory. In particular, it is worth mentioning the instruments used to catalogue the landscape, created by the Catalan

Observatory with the aim of guaranteeing the greatest participation possible from the local people in order to resolve landscape problems.
This public participation takes place during the entire process of producing landscape catalogues using four specific instruments: in-depth interviews, web-surveys, information sessions and debate sessions which, when taken together, allow landscape decisions to be made not only on the basis of "expert" opinion, which is more often than not far removed from the actual needs of local communities, but also based on the extremely useful input of the population.
The process of creating new Italian Observatories and of strengthening the pre-existing ones is still slow and not well-established, despite the fact that in Italy the term landscape is considered meaningful as a definition of culture, identity, social life and economic status.
It is certain that when the two new Regional Observatories are opened in Lombardy and Tuscany, in the planning stage and initial planning stage respectively, the situation will change significantly and, Italy will probably manage to move even closer to the predetermined objectives of the European Landscape Convention.

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Cultural Heritage Conservation and Sustainable Local Development: A Comparative Study of World Heritage Site Management Plans Through the Magnifying Lens of Cultural Landscape

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Abstract

This study aims to identify the best *management practices* for both guaranteeing the conservation of World Heritage Sites and the corresponding local socio-economic development. It proposes some significant management plans implemented in both European and Non-European countries and representative of the third category of cultural landscapes, that is, the "*clearly defined landscapes designed and created intentionally by man. This embraces garden and parkland landscapes constructed for aesthetic reasons which are often (but not always) associated with religious or other monumental buildings and ensembles*" (UNESCO WHC, 2008, Operational Guidelines, par. 39).
In the first part of the research, data collection is used to investigate heritage areas at the national level, including an overview of the various significances of "culture" and "cultural heritage", the enacted heritage and environmental legislation and the organizational and financial tools for addressing the landscape agenda. The reason for giving particular emphasis to the role of shared values and the legal provisions of the countries of origin is due to the conviction that there is a strong relationship between the legal and technical planning framework of a nation and the approach of site authorities to landscape management.
The evaluation is conducted by comparative-analysis, using the *rough sets approach* (Pawlak, 1982) and a specific set of indicators (see Greffe, 2008; Cassatella and Peano, 2011): learning from comparison represents the objective and at the same time the result of *ex-post evaluations*, allowing the acquisition of knowledge or "learning point", which can be transferred to other contexts. At the end of the comparative process it will be possible to understand in analytical terms what the best management strategies are and the significant factors of their success, with reference to the different social, economic, cultural and/or environmental contexts in which the plans have been implemented; hence, allowing us to gain "new experience" that can become useful in future site planning (see Fusco Girard, 2002).

Aims and methodology

As we write, there are no specific obligations or guidelines issued by the World Heritage Centre and the Committee regarding the structuring of a World Heritage Site management plan nor a defined general theory for its preparation and further development (e.g., Feilden and Jokilehto, 1993; WHC-07/16.GA/12). Within its Operational Guidelines (UNESCO WHC, 2008, pars. 96-119) UNESCO does not provide standards as regards the content and format of a management plan but rather some suggested elements to be included, called modules: (1) Legislative, regulatory and contractual measures for protection; (2) Boundaries for effective protection; (3) Buffer zones; (4) Management system; (6) Sustainable use.
It is understood that it would not make sense to establish one predetermine layout, considering the peculiarity of each site; still there is the need to have some guiding principles to incorporate into a management plan in order to make it comparable with other ones, especially with those related to the same heritage type and/or category. The methodological approach underlying this work is intended to be historical, contextual and

comparative. At the base of a contextual-type approach is the awareness of the uniqueness and specificity of each organizational model: this justifies the choice of analysing only a limited number of World Heritage Sites, giving ample space to the dynamics of each of them.

The basic idea is to combine the approach for case studies with *ex-post evaluations*, which implies structuring a meta-analysis, characterized by a systematic structure of information, a set of clear operational criteria, and the use of both quantitative and qualitative methods. Having an imperfect knowledge of the case studies - characterized by quantitative, qualitative, fuzzy, inaccurate or incomplete data -, a useful method for transforming the set of information derived from past experiences in structured knowledge is the *rough sets approach* developed by Pawlak.

The *rough sets system* can be used as an assessment and monitoring tool to identify critical factors of success and summarize the most significant elements of the management systems, also in relation to their impacts on the associated territories and communities in terms of local sustainable development. Moreover, the results thus obtained are expressed in a form similar to natural language – a possibility not usually offered by traditional data analysis techniques - easing the way the user may understand data representations and build derived conclusions (Pawlak, 1991; Van den Bergh *et al.*, 1997).

Following what the Dutch economist Arjo Klamer suggests in its publications on cultural heritage (Klamer, 2004), this paper will differentiate values in cultural, social and economic ones. Consequently, the comparative analysis will be conducted with respect to three matching themes or objectives used to verify the: (1) Conservation and enhancement of World Heritage Sites, with particular emphasis on "cultural landscape" issues such as the quality of cultural heritage and identity of the territory; (2) Social impacts, public participation and education; (3) Local sustainable development. For each specific objective, the author will identify three sets of relevant guiding criteria used to verify the targeted topics. Subsequently, specific indicators will be selected for the measurement and the periodic verification of the management system with reference to the local level.

Expected outputs of this comparative-analysis are: (1) Production of knowledge on specific UNESCO management plans and the associated cultural environments, with emphasis on the relationship between the legal and technical frameworks, the particular organizational models (see Zan, 2005) and management systems put in

Dimension	Objectives	Guiding criteria
CULTURAL / ENVIRONMENTAL	*Combining cultural and environmental values*	Cultural identity
		Environmental sustainability
		Coordination between Management Plan and spatial planning instruments
SOCIAL	*Integrated management*	Integrated programming of activities for protection and valorisation
		Unity and coherence of all activities related to the management of the WHS
		Participation of the local community in the decision-making processes related to the WHS
		Interdependence of the regulation systems
ECONOMIC	*Local sustainable development*	Promoting and supporting activities and enterprises related to the WHS (to avoid the seasonal phenomenon)
		Raising awareness and interest of the local private and public entities to the enhancement of WHS tourism
		Integration of the WHS with the local tourism system

Table 1 - List of objectives and criteria for a WH Management Plan

place; (2) Establishment of a model for assessing and monitoring World Heritage management plans, highlighting the socio-economic impacts generated on their territories and communities; (3) Definition of a set of indicators useful for the purposes of this research.

Overview of the Case Studies

The selection of the World Heritage Sites was made with regard to two main characteristics – that of being characterized as electoral residences (or group of residences) and that of having ornamental garden(s) and/or park(s). Therefore, the focus of the comparison is on sites that correspond to *criterion iv* for inscription on the World Heritage List. The sites to be studied were selected from eight different countries, most of them European, representing a range of situations with different administrative and legal environments; also signifying a varied panorama of tensions between local, national and international issues and values. Additionally, the choice was driven by practical reasons, such as having to deal with case studies whose territorial scale of reference is "local" and the availability of data and study materials concerning the specific site.

Country	World Heritage Site	Year of Inscription & Criteria
Austria	Palace and Gardens of Schönbrunn	1996 (i) (iv)
France	Palace and Park of Versailles	2007 (i) (ii) (vi)
Germany	Würzburg Residence	1981 (i) (iv)
Italy	Villa d'Este (Tivoli)	2001 (i) (ii) (iii) (iv) (iv)
Spain	Aranjuez Cultural landscape	2001 (ii) (iv)
Sweden	Royal Domain of Drottningholm	1991 (iv)
United Kingdom	Blenheim Palace	1987 (ii) (iv)
United States of America	Monticello and the University of Virginia in Charlottesville	1987 (i) (iv) (vi)

Table 2 - List of the chosen Case Studies

The chosen World Heritage Sites will be, therefore, illustrated with regard to the following aspects: (1) Analysis of the specific heritage area: national definition of culture and cultural heritage, legal and planning system (national and local), main actors (local, national and international) involved in site planning and management; (2) Description of the site; (3) Outline and implementation status of the management plan, its legal status and binding character, and description of future actions for its review and monitoring; (3) Indicators for assessing and monitoring the management plans in relation to both cultural aspects and socio-economic impacts at local level.

Figg. 1, 2, 3. Würzburg Residence (photo by S. Bagnara Milan, Nov 2012)

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The Historic Defensive Landscape of the Venetian Area Between Conservation and Innovation

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Introduction

At present a large amount of historical defensive heritage sites have been abandoned and are part of a disposal process, having lost any functional links with the contemporary context from both geopolitical and military viewpoints. In addition, the economic importance of these areas comes to an end, leaving disequilibrium in the urban organization.
In Italy, the decaying condition of this heritage has been one of the key issues for National and Local Administrative Bodies from the 1970s and 1980s. Many legislative decrees have been formulated to give a stimulus for the process of enhancement until recent years, yet the results have rarely been successful. Besides the conservation aims, finding a strategy to reconnect these areas to the new dynamic of use of the city is an aim of urban planning and governance. Moreover, in the case of fortresses, bastioned walls and detached forts, their conception is closely connected with the territorial morphology and could be defined as crucial elements of the landscape.
The large number of fortified places in Venice, largely or only partially conserved, is formally recognized as protected cultural heritage and cultural resources by the National Law and implemented by urban governance. Nevertheless, the limitations established by legislation and planning tools do not seem to fulfill the requirements for conservation and enhancement.
The aim of the study is to establish the advantages of a systemic dynamic of enhancement, based on the consideration of these heritage sites as relevant areas of the urban landscapes of the lagoon, mainland and coastal territory, in order to overcome the present fragmentation of interventions.
In this sense the Local Observatories as conceived by the Veneto Region should be a useful tool to gather and coordinate the local initiatives. The research presented here is in the course of development, so this paper gives only preliminary results.

Methods

The urban area considered in the present research is part of the Province of Venice, where the defensive historical systems are now located. A very general knowledge framework is provided by the list of fortified places in the Lagoon Area Plan – PALAV – and the catalogue elaborated by the Veneto Region which provides a general identification of the sites with a list of 108 sites.
After general historical studies and analysis, data was collected in order to realize a database and linked maps implemented by GIS technology. Secondary and primary sources were used, such as historical cartography and historical cadastre information, quantitative and qualitative data about the military's presence.
The data formed the basis of a diachronic comparison between different historical stages of development and the present situation and are the basis for the next step of the research: the valuation of the state of conservation of the sites and landscape context.
In a second step, methodologies of social science were used and interviews to relevant actors were conducted in a double perspective: present situation and previous decisions.
Administrative and other institutional documents were analyzed in a long term perspective to set the sociopolitical context of the process of abandonment and the partial results of the last 20 years of tentative interventions; it was indispensable to find linkages between planning approaches, governance of territory and local demand.
The diachronic approach was selected as the most useful in the case of a long term process.
The research is ongoing, and consequently the paper presented is work in progress.

The defensive landscape in the Venetian Area

The Venetian area presents a number of defensive historical buildings and areas that are the result of a long historical process of planning, building and the following additions and modifications conceived and realized during the *Serenissima* Republic and, after 1797, during Napoleon and Austrian dominions and finally completed by Italians.
During the *Serenissima* Republic the defense of the city and its lagoon was a debated issue and the configuration of fortification is directly connected with the Myth of Venice as the perfect ideal city without walls. The fortified areas were largely confirmed and implemented as military areas in the following dominions. In addition, a large number of new fortified places were realized in the lagoon, mainland and coastal areas following the changes of the territorial limits and the different role of the city, no longer a Republic. Indeed, the Venice area was considered strategic by the defensive plans of France, Austria and Italy during the changes in geopolitical equilibrium in the 19th and 20th centuries. As a result the Venetian area had one of the largest and most complex defensive organizations at the start of the First World War.

The spontaneous local activation and institutions for revitalization

Since the 1980s there has been a spontaneous local interest in these areas and other abandoned sites of the city and during the 1990s a large number of these sites were the object of the spontaneous birth of many local associations calling for their conversion to civic use and sometimes their protection. It is possible to affirm that this dynamic is shared with many other defensive heritage sites at national level and, in some lucky cases, they meet the institutional interest and start the enhancement process..
In some cases the Administrative Body started a minimum process of intervention by temporary

concessions and conventions meetings with social or cultural and environmental voluntary organizations,, in other cases by private investor long term concessions or more recently they adopted strategies of public-private partnerships for the intervention and management.
Moreover, are present two public companies – Arsenale s.p.a. and Marco Polo System g.e.i.e. – aim to the protectionprotect and enhanceement of this heritage..

In addition, the historical defensive heritage sites are identified as systemic cultural resources for the territory by the planning strategy and tools at both the Municipality and the Province levels. It is useful to point out that the Veneto Region is elaborating the Landscape Regional Landscape Plan – PTRC – which will be the main reference for the future transformation process.

Nevertheless, the current actions are mainly limited to interventions in a single area of disposal, without a systemic approach with the exception of the Institution "Park of the Northern Lagoon".

Preliminary Conclusions

The analysis washas been designed to give information aboutin two main orders of results. The first concerns the consistence, formal and constructive characteristics of the sites, their interconnections, their context areas and the transformation of landscape, aiming toaimed at the identification of specific characteristics that could be understood by the present reading of the landscape. The analysis shows that the defensive heritage sites and their localization can be read as part of the urban history of Venice reflecting the urban transformations in the organization and development of new centrality in the city, new relations with the mainland and with other cities, etc. Moreover, the historical defensive systems reflect the conception and the interpretation of the lagoon system and its morphology; on the other hand, the characteristics of the heritage vary depending on the military function and in relation with to the evolution and innovation in of the offensive technologies and army production, which implies defensive strategy changes. Moreover, they are placedut in relation with to the morphological characteristics and land use that have been conserved or left traces that could be read, even though they are part of a transformed area: e.g. the five great defensive heritage sites at the harbor accesses to the lagoon, that which are strongly *compromised* by the realization of the MOSE project, so they are part of the radical landscape contemporary changes in the landscape. The second order of results is related to the long term processes of policy and planning tools and to the public interest and activities of citizens and associations. It is important to notice that the defensive heritage sites are state properties and thus the object of a specific legislation due to their cultural interest. This status of being "public places" drives to the local spontaneous demand for preservation and participation forto the reuse of the sites.

Nowadays, the present condition of the analyzed heritage sites imposes intervention of conservation intervention and compatible reuse in order to overcomeing the risks connected to the abandonment, to and the lack of maintenance. At the same time the reuse intervention generates potential conflicts for the land uses and the transformation. The decisions-makers need to take into account that the intervention is related to both the specific heritage area and the context also at a the landscape scalelevel.

Further development of the research aims to analyze the potential of Local Observatories in the case of the defensive landscape and to elaborate guidelines for the enhancement of the elements in the landscape.

CATPAISATGE 2020: a New Road Map For the Landscape Observatory of Catalonia

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Catalonia enjoys a great diversity of landscapes and, fortunately, landscape is becoming a fundamental part of territorial planning policies and even more of sectorial policies of a social and cultural character. The Catalan Parliament joined the European Landscape Convention (ELC) in December 2000, two months after it was approved. Five years later, this Catalan Parliament approved the Act 8/2005 for the Protection, Management and Planning of the Landscape, and set up the Landscape Observatory of Catalonia.
Five aspects of the law foster participation and cooperation, which are crucial for landscape management and planning. Firstly, the law is clear and very easy to understand for citizens, associations and institutions alike. Secondly, the law is pragmatic and tangible, and its results are very easy to see. Thirdly, the spirit of the law is positive, rather than limiting or penalising, making it acceptable to all parties. Fourth, the Act has a transverse character: although it is from town planning policies that the Act is developed, it also opens the door to a progressive adaptation to the full integration of landscape into all areas of government action. Finally, the Act guarantees public and social participation and cooperation.
The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia (www.catpaisatge.net) has been operative since 2005. It was conceived as an advisory body to the Government of Catalonia and for awakening society to matters of landscape. The Observatory has become a meeting place between the administration (at all levels), universities, professional groups and the whole of society regarding everything related to landscape. The main functions are collaborating with the Catalan administration for the implementation of the ELC; making Catalan society aware of the importance of landscape and the right to enjoy it; and acting as a centre for research, documentation, thought and action on landscape.
The Observatory's structure and organisation are important for fostering the spirit of cooperation and participation mentioned above. Three aspects can be outlined in this respect. Firstly, the Landscape Observatory is a public consortium, with its own legal personality. This gives the Observatory an open-ended character, and makes it very flexible in its functions and its activities. Secondly, the composition of the Observatory (www.catpaisatge.net/eng/observatori_organigrama.php), allows for a dynamic dialogue between members of the Governing and Advisory Councils, with voices from different places and often with opposing interests. Finally, the Observatory lies halfway between civil society and the administration. This is interesting insofar as it can advise the administration on drawing up landscape policies for the territory, while at the same time communicating concerns felt by society.
Since 2005, the Landscape Observatory has focused its efforts on identifying and cataloguing the landscapes of Catalonia, setting up the instruments envisaged in the Landscape Law, and helping to integrate landscape in spatial and sectorial planning. Now that these lines are consolidated, the Observatory is embarking on a new approach, for which it has designed a roadmap called CATPAISATGE 2020. Under the slogan "Country, Landscape, Future", the new strategy places the emphasis on issues such as internationalisation, local and entrepreneurial development, highlighting new landscapes, and on the importance of values, research, and communication. CATPAISATGE 2020 is structured into ten lines of research:

*Internationalisation from singularity***.** Internationalisation has always been one of the mainstays of

the work carried out by the Landscape Observatory. It must be borne in mind, however, that this will only succeed by focusing on the singular nature of a country that contains some of the greatest landscape diversity in Europe. It cannot be overlooked that landscapes that maintain, reinforce, and develop their identity and personality are more likely to prosper in the end than either urban or rural landscapes that have lost these qualities.

Living and producing in quality surroundings. The quality of the landscape contributes to the international profile of the country and facilitates the competitiveness of its territories, for example, by attracting skilled labour and innovative economies. On the other hand, quality local production is closely linked to quality landscapes.

Landscape, creativity and strategic sectors. The quality and singularity of the landscape have a positive impact on sectors such as cinema, advertising, fashion, gastronomy, design and so on, but at the same time, they are part of the more successful development strategies for tourism and agriculture. Quality tourism is known to shun spoiled or mediocre landscapes.

Landscape and the local world. There is a growing consensus that landscapes - especially landscapes with strong personalities - contribute to local development not only from the economic perspective but also in terms of self-esteem, identity, and quality of life.

The creation of new benchmark landscapes. Catalonia has many benchmark landscapes, landscapes imbued with strong symbolic significance, which gained their iconic status decades or even centuries ago. They have reached us today in reasonably good condition and it is now incumbent upon us to preserve both their cultural and identity value. However, in a context of increasing trivialisation of many ordinary landscapes, we must make an effort to create new benchmark landscapes, without overlooking their time-honoured counterparts. Using good design and projects, we should be able to convert ordinary, anodyne landscapes into places of reference with which the local population can identify and establish a dialogue.

Landscape, values and community. Awareness of the diversity of landscapes, visual enjoyment of our surroundings, and respect and sensitivity to the natural or heritage dimensions are all values that reinforce the social fabric and dignify the community.

Landscape, employment and entrepreneurship. The landscape generates economic opportunities and becomes an agent for creating employment in sectors linked to the territory, and to agriculture, education, and the environment. This is also true of emerging creative fields in their relationship with the landscape, such as cinema, advertising, fashion, and gastronomy, among others.

Climate change, energy and landscape. Landscape is a first-class indicator for understanding the effects of climate change, imagining future scenarios, and designing adaptation strategies, while at the same time combating this change, above all by means of widespread use of renewable energies.

Research and innovation as growing values. Landscape research is a growing value that provides a comprehensive response to some of the new global challenges. It also reinforces the potential for entrepreneurship and the creation of employment in various sectors.

Education and communication. Landscape education is not sufficient: we must also know how to communicate the value of landscape education. Communication is a crucial aspect of contemporary societies and therefore we must make good use of the enormous communicative value of the landscape, a true bearer of messages easily recognised by the population.

The challenges faced are many and great: encouraging a climate of dialogue between governments, in order to overcome the fragmentation of the public administration structure; strengthening the dialogue between civil society and the different administrations; fostering cooperation between the public and private spheres, while exploring alternative channels for landscape management and planning, and means of financing them; finding imaginative ways of surmounting the scarcity of economic resources destined for cooperation or solving the convoluted question of governance which is familiar to us all (who does what and at what level regarding landscape?). The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia aspires to continue playing a major role in achieving these important goals. These are collective challenges with no finishing line.

The Landscape Observatory of the Canary Islands. "Projecting the Landscape"

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The Landscape Observatory of the Canary Islands has its origins in the second biennial of the Canary Islands (2008), an initiative of the autonomous Canary Government alongside the creation of an Office for the Observatory, thus implementing the European Landscape Convention, which was ratified by the Government of Spain on 26 November 2007, and entered into force on 1 March 2008.

The establishment of this Observatory is an important step of the Canary Islands in its commitment to the Convention, and it puts the Islands at the centre of the debate on landscape, taking an active part in it. In contrast to the Mainland, the Islands are presented as commensurable territories. The possibility of having a controlled environment, or at least of quantifying the elements as they come together, make them ideal laboratories for understanding human behaviour and its relationship with the environment.

The last forty years have been a constant challenge for the Canary Islands in terms of the management of its territory, determined by almost 50% of protected soil, a very complex terrain which severely hinders the execution of infrastructure, and a struggle between the tourism model and agricultural land and resources, along with a population and urban settlements and metropolitan growth. Any decision related to the territory becomes dramatic, involving a very large number of factors.

The Canary Islands may be an example against globalization. Local experience generates ways of managing a greatly limited space. It is not intended to be an anti-globalisation model; the idea is to present local responses to specific situations that can be extrapolated to other places with similar problems. The geographical variety of the Canary Islands and the possibility of annotating the fields of study provide the archipelago with a privileged platform for testing new models and situations. The use of local materials and technical solutions are answers which can serve an infinite number of territories.
Parallel to the objectives of the Landscape Observatory in the Canary Islands and the island laboratories, is implementation of the European Landscape Convention. Artists, architects, botanists, sociologists and lawyers across a broad

multidisciplinary spectrum it located in the landscape biennial of the Canary Islands, a territory and appropriate forum to reflect and consider both issues and proposals that address the complexity of the landscape as a multifaceted reality from which interpret our contemporary reality.

For this reason, the aim of the Observatory in weighing up landscape encounters a first difficulty in the definition of the area itself: in the delimitation of a project geography that merges with the landscape. The research observatory thus stands in contrast to the "consolidated" disciplinary fields, merging with the more specific theme of a 'landscape project' in all its forms. With this in mind, the Landscape Observatory of the Canary Islands aims to become a point of meeting, representation and projection of what is created in the landscape and, above all, the landscape project.

Various interpretations of landscape and their consequent methods of innovation have set the parameters, at least since the mid-eighties, of the entire discourse surrounding city and territory. Proof of this is the broad literature on landscape whose reflections require a redefinition of the relationship between project forms, actions and social phenomena. A reconsideration not only presents the problem of relocating and establishing radical concepts and methods rooted in different traditions of study, but also expresses the need for a more radical change of the very mind-set with which to approach the phenomena related to physical space and, in particular, territorial space.

Objective

The Landscape Observatory is intended as a centre of reflection and action in the landscape, as a space capable of integrating new paradigms and new methods, as well as identifying new "territories" and new sectors for proposing research, with the aim of formulating innovative hypotheses. At the same time, it is also the result of an institutional need for landscape observatories, as derived in the European Landscape Convention and European law. In this field, our somewhat ambitious objective is to make the Government of the Canaries, in conjunction with other institutions and universities, a pioneer in the definition of the role of LANDSCAPE observatories in the creation of a "new territorial policy" in Europe.

Actions

The activities of the Observatory could be structured along three principle actions relating to the field of landscape, understood as common areas of work, which could "function as a system" and which could combine the various research efforts.
The first relates to the internal construction of the Observatory itself. This action highlights the need to update and record both the national and international discussion on landscape. It is proposed, therefore, to monitor the scientific and experimental fields in which research, actions and plans relating to landscape are framed, as well as interventions in specific territories. Recognition of the editorial output inherent in the theme: journals, portals an webpages, but also festivals and conferences, competitions etc. Recognition based on the proposed and on-going research on the theme of landscape, both in the area of European projects as well as research, conferences and seminar material or doctoral projects; and lastly, didactic and experimental material (for example, workshops and training schools). In this regard, UNISCAPE offers a first channel for exploring themes and research content, broadening the radius of action to other universities. The desired adhesion of the Observatory to the network LE:NOTRE – Thematic Network Project in Landscape Architecture –, as well as adhesion within UNISCAPE in the website www.atlas-eu.org, would enable this recognition to extend itself beyond European limits. In sum, the action of this internal Observatory could help to define the research objectives and actions for landscape, its internal functions and the strategies for becoming a common nexus between various institutions, universities, professional sectors and society for all aspects of landscape. The main desired results of this action are:

- The creation of a map of questions and relevant critical points in accordance with the participants, which would cover the broad spectrum of research themes that have emerged from the debate and which favour the establishment of a process of synthesis in this area;

- The creation, on the basis of the initial mapping, of an institutional link.

- The creation of the map becomes an occasion for the production of scientific material (with the objective, in particular, of providing opportunities for young researchers), transforming the various research components of said material into research outputs (articles, essays in selected journals and for the digital publishing industry, working papers and written contributions for conferences);

- The definition, on the basis of the recognition of the bibliographic and documentary material, of a proposal for updating library collections with a view to creating 'landscape sections'.

The second action arises from the need to converge research and realities in the territory of the Canaries. In short, we can call this section **"***Observatory of the Territories": Laboratories.* The objectives are: to investigate paradigmatic territories in order to test acquired knowledge and to experiment with new actions and participative practices; to identify areas of application in the project and in the operative sense of the European Landscape Convention; and the measurement of the Observatory's capacities to become the starting point for the implementation of procedures for cultural, social and economic renewal, as well as the enhancement of landscape values.

From an operative standpoint, the Observatory could be made up of *laboratories* dedicated to different themes and issues so that the work would be experimental and dynamic. It could be made up of working groups adept at confronting the specific themes that arise though the development of knowledge of the territory. Furthermore, activities such as seminars and international workshops could take place, including research projects of the Observatory linked to institutions with specific competence for the territory: Councils.

The third action is intended to position the Observatory in the debate on the creation of Landscape Observatories, following the requirement of the European Landscape Convention and the provisions of national legislation. In short, we can call this action *"Institution Observatory".*

From the advanced experience of some European regions such as Cataluña and from some regions of Italy and other European areas, we can outline and highlight some issues that might be especially important for our contribution. What is at stake is the very role that the Observatory can play in the process of change in the landscape, its relationship with planning, definition and monitoring of landscape quality objectives, its capacity to involve local actors in this process. The creation of Observatories in the Canaries must however enjoy maximum clarity in legal and administrative aspects, with the need to act as a link between the processes of understanding and monitoring of territorial transformations.

A first step towards developing the debate on these issues is an international conference on Landscape Observatories in Europe. Designed as a meeting point for international experiences, it is estimated that the conference would lay the foundations for a broader and more systematic "observation of observatories", which is necessary in order to define and monitor future action.

Landscape in Territorial Governance

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Keywords: RECEP-ENELC, European Landscape Convention, Governance, Landscape, Territorial Governance.

1. RECEP-ENELC

RECEP-ENELC is a European non-governmental organization composed of regional and local public authorities, with the objective of promoting the implementation of the *European Landscape Convention* at local and regional level. The aim of RECEP-ENELC is to support the interested local and regional authorities, at the scientific, technical, political and administrative levels, in their activities aimed at implementing the principles of the Convention. In this framework, RECEP-ENELC encourages the dissemination of scientific and technical knowledge concerning the landscape. RECEP-ENELC members have the opportunity to co-operate on landscape issues within a common framework, supported by an international structure, establishing contacts with international organizations, such as UNISCAPE and CIVILSCAPE. EU institutions, state authorities, non-governmental organizations, universities and other bodies interested in the implementation of the ELC.

2. Landscape Policy in Europe

The *European Landscape Convention*, adopted by the Council of Europe in 2000 in Florence, and entered into force as an international treaty in 2004, has been ratified by 39 members of the COE (spring 2013), and has become a *new paradigm for landscape policy* in Europe.

As stated in the Preamble of the Convention, the landscape has an important public interest role in *the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields*, and constitutes a resource favorable to economic activity and can contribute to job creation. The landscape is a key element of individual and social well-being and that its *protection, management and planning* entail rights and responsibilities for everyone.

The new Convention applies to the entire territory and not only selected or specifically protected areas. The Convention covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas, and concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding as well as everyday or even degraded landscapes.

The Convention adopts a definition of landscape that links together several basic principles:

a) The social principle. "Landscape" means an area, *as perceived by people*, whose character is the result of the *action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.*

b) The legal principle. The protection, management and planning of landscape entail *rights and responsibilities for everyone.*

c) The political principle. Competent public authorities should implement *landscape policy* by means of general principles, strategies and guidelines that permit the taking into account of *specific measures aimed at the protection, management and planning of landscapes.*

d) The principle of European cooperation. The aims of the Convention are to promote landscape protection, management and planning, and to organize European co-operation on landscape issues.

According to these principles, the Convention compels each state to harmonize the implementation of this Convention with its own policies and specifically to carry out actions to:

Recognize landscapes in law as an essential component of people's surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity.

Establish and implement landscape policies aimed at landscape protection, management and planning through the adoption of specific measures.

Establish procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of the landscape policies.

Integrate landscape into regional spatial and town planning policies and in cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape.

3. Landscape AS a key element in territorial policies

The recognition of landscape in law is clearly related to the right of citizens to cultural and natural heritage and the values in ecological, environmental and social fields, which constitute a sign of territorial identity.

Beyond its aesthetic and natural dimension or its heritage values, the landscape is recognized as an *essential element of individual and social welfare*, a key factor in the quality of life of people, a favorable resource for economic activity and a differentiating factor for the efficiency, competitiveness and development of a territory.

The concept of landscape in the Convention differs from the traditional ways of dealing with landscape, which consider it a part of the physical space as an asset to be protected, similar to the heritage concept of landscape, or to be assessed for their natural or cultural values. Instead, the Convention brings a *comprehensive way* of dealing with the quality of the territory where people live, with the recognition of cultural and economic factors that interact with natural factors leading to sustainable development and social fulfillment.

Landscape policies are aimed at *integrating natural and physical factors with emotional perceptions of the population*, historical and cultural features related to the sense of identity of the territory. The concept of sustainable development is understood in a fully integrated manner considering the environmental, cultural, social and economic dimensions applying to the entire territory.

As stated in the Guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, (CM/REC 2008), public involvement in decisions to take action and in the implementation and management of landscapes over time, is not regarded as a formal act of government but as an integral part of management, protection and planning procedures concerning landscape, and territorial governance.

4. Implementation of the European landscape convention

Each state decides the way in which landscape may receive specific recognition in the relevant administrative level according its own constitutional organization and taking into account the principles of subsidiarity and the effectiveness of the policies to be implemented in the following basic issues:

A. General provisions to be taken.

Implementation of the Convention in accordance with the division of powers and the proper constitutional organization and administrative arrangements from national, regional and local levels, in order to accomplish:

- The legal recognition of landscape
- The integration of landscape into policies.

B. Criteria and instruments for landscape policies.

Knowledge of landscapes: identification, description, analysis and assessment of the landscape.

Definition of landscape quality objectives.

Attainment of these objectives by the protection, management and planning of landscape over a period of time.

Monitoring of landscape changes, assessment and evaluation of the effects of policies on landscape.
C. Public involvement in landscape.
Participation of the relevant stakeholders in all phases of the process of drawing up and implementing landscape policies.
Promotion of education and training on landscape at all levels.
Awareness raising, understanding and involvement of the population in landscape issues.
Promotion of European cooperation on landscapes.

5. Landscape And Territorial governance

"Governance" means rules, processes and behavior that affect the way in which powers are exercised. The term *"territorial governance"* may be used to denominate the political concern to coordinate policies, programs and projects in relation to a specific territorial development.
The implementation of a landscape policy must be considered as a key and essential element for the development of qualitative, comprehensive and coordinated spatial and sectoral policies for territorial development in a particular territory.
Landscape policy and territorial governance can be considered as a means to co-ordinate natural, environmental and heritage values with economic and social dynamics through the involvement and participation of a multiplicity of actors with the capacity of modifying both policies and intervention objectives (from growth control to development promotion) and action procedures (from authoritative imposition of choices to negotiated consensus building).
Taking into account the White Paper on European Governance (COM 2001), the goal for new governance is to open up policy-making to make it more inclusive. Good governance must combine different policy tools such as legislation, social dialogue, structural funding, and action programs.
According to the principles of the European Landscape Convention, landscape policies must be implemented at all levels of government from national, regional or local levels, in compliance with the characteristics of "good" governance: openness, participation, accountability, effectiveness and coherence.

Openness. The Institutions should work in a more open manner, and should actively communicate about the decisions to be taken with the use of language accessible and understandable for the general public.
Participation. The quality, relevance and effectiveness of policies depend on ensuring wide participation throughout the policy chain – from conception to implementation.
Accountability. All those involved in developing and implementing policy processes need to be clearer, and must explain and take responsibility for actions made.
Effectiveness. Policies must be effective and timely, delivering what is needed on the basis of clear objectives, an evaluation of future impact and, where available, of past experience.
Coherence. Policies and action must be coherent and easily understood. Coherence requires political leadership and a strong responsibility on the part of the institutions to ensure a consistent approach within a complex system.

Each principle is important by itself and they cannot be achieved through separate actions. The principle of governance demands that policies can no longer be effective unless they are prepared, implemented and enforced in a more inclusive, coordinated and comprehensive way, in compliance with the principles of proportionality and subsidiarity.

6. Instruments for governance in landscape

The requirements for territorial governance refer to the policies, actors, procedures and interactions between organizations and individuals in the government of a specific territory. As was stated in *Governance for Sustainable Development of Catalonia* (CADS 2002), governance must be drawn up in compliance with the following conditions that can also be clearly applied for developing landscape policies and strategies.

1. Provide quality information and appropriate knowledge.
2. Intergovernmental coordination in the local-global. Vertical integration.
3. Coordination between sectoral policies. Horizontal integration.
4. Implementation of a comprehensive and innovative range of instruments and policies.
5. Bureaucratic administrative culture and quality of political action.
6. Participatory political culture.
7. Culture of sustainability.
8. Strength of the natural and social capital.

Considering these requirements, we can deepen its integration into the existing bundles of territorial policies that have an impact on landscape, in order to be able to draw up a road map to develop a sustainable, comprehensive, qualitative and integrated strategy for territorial governance oriented towards landscape values to be implemented in compliance with these sectoral policies.
A preliminary approach to territorial governance as defined in that sense should be stressed in compliance with the following objectives:

A. Integration of landscape in public policies.
- Specific Landscape Act for protection, management and planning of landscapes.
- Development of landscape instruments: Landscape catalogues, landscape charters, landscape impact assessment projects.
- Integration of landscape in spatial planning, urbanism, land use regulations, town planning and housing policies.
- Integration of landscape in territorial development.
- Integration of landscape in sustainability and environmental policies.
- Integration of landscape concerns in infrastructure, and public works, plans, programs, and projects.
- Integration of landscape concerns in strategic plans for economic development.
- Integration of landscape in agricultural and rural development plans.
- Consideration of landscape values in historic and artistic heritage.
- Integration of landscape in tourist development, leisure, recreational and sport activities.
- Integration of landscape values in productive activities, trade, technology and innovation activities.
- Integration of landscape in planning and development of energy infrastructures.
- Integration of landscape in planning and development of telecommunications Infrastructure
- Integration of landscape in public health programs and therapies.
- Landscape in education programs at all levels.

B. Actions to be taken on transverse fields
- Implementation of landscape policy. Landscape management. Landscape Award.
- Integration of landscape policies in sustainable development plans, programs, projects and actions. Natural and protected areas. Natura 2000 areas.
- Integration of landscape in territorial development strategies.
- Integration of landscape concerns in climate change policies and strategies.
- Integration of landscape in rural development, policies and programs. Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).
- Landscape in Territorial Cohesion policies.
- Landscape in the European Territorial Agenda.
- Landscape in EU 2020 Strategy Objectives.
- Integration of landscape values in strategic assessment procedures.
- Landscape in environmental impact assessment procedures.

C. Specific instruments for landscape policy development

- Creation of Landscape Observatories.
- European cooperation on landscape. The Council of Europe.
- National and local cooperation, networks and landscape oriented initiatives.
- Land stewardship initiatives.
- Creation of funds for landscape protection and management.
- Promotion of research, communication and dissemination of knowledge in landscape issues.
- Promotion of education on landscape at all levels.
- Promotion of landscape and citizenship values.
- Increase in measures for raising public awareness of landscape initiatives.
- Increase in consultation and public participation procedures in landscape issues

Conclusions

The *European Landscape Convention* has became a *new paradigm for landscape policy* in Europe, based on the legal recognition of landscape and the integration of landscape into policies, mainly in spatial planning, urbanism, town and urban planning, and in all sectoral policies that may have an impact on landscape.

Landscape is recognized as an *essential element of individual and social welfare*, a key factor in the quality of life of people, a favorable resource for economic activity and a differentiating factor for the efficiency, competitiveness and development of a territory.

Each state should *implement the Convention* at all administrative levels, from national, regional and local, giving support and encouraging the *participation of individuals and civil society* organizations in landscape initiatives.

Territorial Governance should integrate landscape into territorial policies in an inclusive, coordinated and comprehensive way.

RECEP-ENELC offers to regional and local authorities the opportunity to co-operate on landscape issues within a common framework, supported by an international structure, *establishing contacts and networking* with public authorities and international organizations, such as UNISCAPE and CIVILSCAPE.

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The Identities of the Luxembourgish Landscape: the Echternach Site and a Challenge for an Integrated Perspective of its Protection and Valorisation

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Keywords: Luxembourg, cultural landscape, conservation, valorisation, identity.

Current organisation of landscape safeguarding

In Luxembourg, one of the richest European countries, the competence for cultural heritage management, valorisation and safeguarding lies with the Ministry of Culture, in particular through Commission des Sites et Monuments Nationaux (CSMN)[1], founded in 1930 after the promulgation in 1927 of the first act concerning monument preservation and protection. There is also the *Commission de Surveillance des Bâtiments religieux*, founded in 1945 after the Second World War and the *Service des sites et des monuments nationaux.*[2]

Substantially, protection is structured in two ways that have the aim, on the one hand, of preserving "immeubles, nus ou bâtis, dont la conservation présente au point de vue archéologique, historique, artistique, esthétique, scientifique, technique ou industriel, un intérêt public, sont classés comme monuments nationaux en totalité ou en partie par les soins du Gouvernement, selon les distinctions établies par les articles ci-après. Sont compris parmi les immeubles susceptibles d'être classés, aux termes de la présente loi, les monuments mégalithiques et les terrains qui renferment des stations ou gisements préhistoriques"[3]; and on the other hand, the protection of natural resources.[4]

Apart from the fragmentation of legislative texts, it must be noted that in the "definitions" included in Article 1 of the law of the 1983, concerning only individual buildings and not 'sites', as well as for subsequent articles, there is no reference to the attribute "cultural".

In fact, the same "protection areas" are considered as a "frame" for the monument or building that has to be preserved, restored or valorised. We can read in Article 34: "Peuvent être créés et délimités par arrêté grand-ducal, à prendre sur avis du Conseil d'Etat, des secteurs dits «secteurs sauvegardés», lorsque ceux-ci présentent un caractère archéologique, historique, artistique, esthétique, scientifique, technique ou industriel de nature à justifier la conservation, la restauration et la mise en valeur de tout ou partie d'un ensemble d'immeubles".

On the other hand, the Act of 19th January 2004 regulates the preservation of natural resources and aims to "sauvegarde du caractère, de la diversité et de l'intégrité de l'environnement naturel, la protection et la restauration des paysages et des espaces naturels, la protection de la flore et de la faune et de leurs biotopes, le maintien et l'amélioration des équilibres et de la diversité biologiques, la protection des ressources naturelles contre toutes les dégradations et l'amélioration des structures de l'environnement naturel" (Art.1). To do that some areas have been appointed as well as "zones protégées d'intérêt communautaire comprenant les zones spéciales de conservation et les zones de protection spéciale, des zones protégées d'intérêt national comprenant les réserves naturelles et les paysages protégés ainsi que des zones protégées d'importance communale" (Art.2). Nevertheless, the specifications we find in the following Article 3 regarding "*zones spéciales de conservation*" and "*zones de protection special*" clearly show that the landscape the Act aims to regulate is only the natural landscape with its connotations of habitat, fauna and flora. The 'site' is defined as "une aire géographiquement définie, dont la surface est clairement délimitée". So, the preserved landscape is a site "qui nécessite une protection particulière en raison de la richesse de ses ressources naturelles, de la diversité, la spécificité

et la beauté de son aspect paysager ou de sa fonction récréative et de détente" (Art. 3, c). The definition of conservation in this article is significant: "conservation" is "un ensemble de mesures requises pour maintenir ou rétablir les habitats naturels et les populations d'espèces de faune et de flore sauvages dans un état de conservation favorable" (Art. 3, f). We can note that landscape is mainly perceived for its natural characteristics and its protection is linked to the restrictive rules for buildings within it.[5] In sum, the current organization of landscape safeguarding is essentially based on a subdivision of the territory into "protected areas", that is, "conservation zones" and "special protection zones"[6] and is related to the specific preservation of the natural heritage (habitat, fauna and flora). A State Council procedure, that began in 2000 and terminated finished in 2007, has expressed its opinion about a law project for the protection and conservation of the 'cultural heritage'. On this point In this context we find the a reference to the concept of 'cultural heritage'. ActuallyAt present, some projects by the *Service des sites et monuments nationaux* are in progress and they concern punctual timely interventions ion castles, fortifications and dismantled industrial buildings. However, there is a recent law project (2013)7 related to the protection of nature and natural resources.

Luxembourgish landscape characteristic and Echternach site

The route linking the Luxembourgish capital and the Echternach site allows us to perceive a very particular and significant interest: we cross the small region of the Müllerthal, the so-called Petite Suisse Luxembourgeoise and the Basse-Sûre, where wide areas of territory with alternating flourishing hills characterize the landscape.
Echternach, bordering on Germany, was founded before Luxembourg city, stood as refuge and meditation site. The Sûre river is the element that marks the landscape and also the urban pattern. The river separates Luxembourg from Germany that remain joined by a masonry bridge placed on the borders of the Echternach Abbey. It defines also the shape of the urban structure that settled and developed in its cove. It, finally, together the facing hills, has represented an element of defense against the barbaric incursions.
Actually, the surrounding elevations still give us the sense of the limits of Echternach urban growth. Moreover, the remparts, started in the XI century, are still clear.
Today, the national route, the route de Luxembourg (N11-E29), cuts in two parts the urban center and it is joined to the bridge crossing the German boundary. This causes a sense of extraneousness and invalidates the urban relationships that constitute the keeping and development of the identity of a place.
In Echternach, as well as in many European countries, we note that a lot of cuts in the urban pattern had been made in the past and they have distorted not only the perception of the urban connotations but also of the landscape.
In 1969 P. Gazzola e J.-B.Perrin[8], charged of with the protection plan for the Luxembourgish small town by UNESCO, worked out their study in "La sauvegarde et la mise en valeur de l'abbaye, de la ville et du site d'Echternach"[9]. In this document some dangers have beenwere underlined, but there are were also proposals and solutions. We can note in this work an important and relevant methodological approach and definition of the problem.
In fact, they individuate the separate elements as the Abbey, the historic center and the natural context, but considering "l'Abbaye et la vieille ville d'Echternach constituent incontestablement l'ensemble luxembourgeois le plus remarquable" e che "leur situation et leur qualité en font l'une des parties importantes du patrimoine artistique européen".
However, the most interesting thing that we have to consider is their specific perspective: it is based both on the recognition of the historical European value, and on the global and integrated conception of the «ville-abbaye-paysage». This is inhas a strong affinity with to the Historic Urban Landscape concept which comes out from the *Memorandum of Vienna* (2005) and the *UNESCO Recommendations on the HUL* of 2011.
Our auspice premise is that the legislative authorities, especially the Luxembourgish ones, could acquire and develop a vision based on the connecting between the natural aspects and the cultural ones aspects of the landscape as a cooperation "of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors" (*European Landscape Convention on Landscape*) through which we can recognize the basics of the identity as one tessera tile of the *mosaique culturel*in the cultural mosaic that marks our European continent.

Notes

[1] This Ministry is also involved in the following actions: *Politique culturelle nationale et internationale, Patrimoine culturel National*, the *Politique architectural* and there is both a *Commission nationale pour la Coopération avec l'UNESCO* and the *Institut européen des Itinéraires culturels*.

[2] See U. Carughi, *Maledetti vincoli. La tutela dell'architettura contemporanea*, Torino 2012, p.314. The old quartiers and fortification of Luxembourg city are included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. See also Cfr. A. Aveta, Conservazione *e valorizzazione del patrimonio culturale. Indirizzi e norme per il restauro architettonico*, Napoli 2005, p. 233. www.unesco.org.

[3] See the law of the 18 July 1983 (*Memorial* n° 62, on 10 August 1983). It regulates the protection of sites and Nnational monuments safeguard and it had no modifications but just littleminor integrations. The last transformationchange concernsis about a draft law that we can note down in its iter from the 2000 until the definitive advice of the State Council in the 2007.

[4] ArAneAAugustAconcerningAregardingAon the of waterAonassessmenton theand

[5] In particular, Article 10 provides: "Lorsqu'une construction existante située dans la zone verte compromet le caractère d'un site, le Ministre peut ordonner que son aspect extérieur soit modifié de façon qu'il s'harmonise avec le milieu environnant. Le Ministre peut aussi, si l'utilisation de la construction constitue un danger pour la conservation du sol, du soussol, des eaux, de l'atmosphère ou du milieu naturel en général, prescrire les mesures appropriées pour y remédier. Les constructions existantes dans la zone verte ne peuvent être modifiées extérieurement, agrandies ou reconstruites qu'avec l'autorisation du Ministre". Similarly, in relation to the authorization of intervention, Article 56 provides: "Les autorisations requises en vertu de la présente loi sont refusées lorsque les projets du requérant sont de nature à porter préjudice à la beauté et au caractère du paysage ou s'ils constituent un danger pour la conservation du sol, du sous-sol, des eaux, de l'atmosphère, de la flore, de la faune ou du milieu naturel en général ou lorsqu'ils sont contraires à l'objectif général de la présente loi tel qu'il est défini à l'article 1". The 5th attachment to the Act provides the national list under Directive 92/43/CEE concerning natural habitat conservation; number 13 on the list is Herborn /Echternach – Haard.

[6] The "conservation zones" have been instituted in conformity with the Ddirective 92/43/CEE;, see also Regulation of 2009 (*Memorial* n°220, 17th November 2009) and the "special protection zones" in conformity with the dDirective 79/409/CEE, see also Regulation of 2012 (*Memorial* n°258, 12th December 2012).

[7] The law project n° 4715, "*concernant la protection et la conservation du patrimoine archéologique, historique, architectural et paysager"*, is actually incurrently under joint-consideration combined examination by the Governement with the law project n° 5377 "*portant approbation de la Convention concernant les mesures à prendre pour interdire et empêcher l'importation, l'exportation et le transfert de propriété illicites des biens culturels, adoptée par la Conférence générale de l'UNESCO à sa seizième session, àParis, le 14 novembre 1970*". Actually Currently the law project n° 6477 on natural resources conservation (*modifiant la loi modifiée du 19 janvier 2004 concernant la protection de la nature et des ressources naturelles; l'ordonnance royale grand-ducale modifiée du 1er juin 1840 concernant l'organisation de la partie forestière; la loi modifiée du 31 mai 1999 portant institution d'un fonds pour la protection de l'environnement; et la loi modifiée du 22 mai 2008 relative à l'évaluation des incidences de certains plans et programmes sur l'environnement*) is under examination of by the State Council. See www.legilux.lu.

[8] P.Gazzola, J.-B. Perrin, *La sauvegarde et la mise en valeur de l'abbaye, de la ville et du site d'Echternach*, décembre 1968 – février 1969, UNESCO, n. de série 1270/BMS.RD/CLT, Paris, Juin 1969, p. 27.

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Annex A

THE 5TH CAREGGI SEMINAR
Landscape Observatories in Europe From the ELC Recommendations to the Local Initiatives (2000-2013)
Organised by UNISCAPE in collaboration with the University of Torino and the Polytechnic of Torino with the support of the TUSCANY REGION partners: RECEP-ENELC, CIVILSCAPE and CIST (Inter-university Center of Territorial Sciences)
Florence, 27-28th of June 2013 - Villa Ruspoli, Piazza Indipendenza 9

Having regard to Recommendation CM/Rec (2008)3 on the Guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, "landscape observatories, centers and institutes" are one of the main instruments for the implementation of landscape policies (II.3.3). They allow collection, exchange of information and study protocols between states and local communities. In some cases national and regional bodies have established institutional centers for landscape observation, which show a varied panorama of missions and relationships within the activities of spatial and landscape planning. In Italy, for example, Regional Observatories, created by a national law, collect geographical data, accompany the landscape planning process, and rarely, carry out participation experiments. In Spain too, the Regional Observatories are actively involved in the elaboration of landscape planning instruments. At the same time, a substantial number of "spontaneous" initiatives from civil society to local organizations, which carry out awareness raising, participation, and sometimes, elaborate projects and concrete actions on the territory.

This seminar promotes an international overview of the activities of landscape observatories, as well as reflecting on their mission and effectiveness with regard to the ELC objectives, and the relationships between the different subjects. With the participation of institutional bodies, public officials, researchers and representatives of civil society, the seminar will discuss the following themes. Awareness, education and participation Documentation, assessment and monitoring Relationships with landscape and spatial policies, planning, and design Landscape Observatories Networks Research in progress Problems and actions to be taken: a "Landscape Observatories Agenda"

The seminar includes a workshop focused on the Italian case (Italian Regional Landscape Observatories Workshop, in the Italian language); where Landscape Observatories are established in each region and at the national level by law.

Scientific Committee

Roberto Gambino (Politecnico di Torino and UNISCAPE Executive Board Representative)
Claudia Cassatella (Politecnico di Torino)
Marco Devecchi (Università di Torino, Dipartimento di Scienze Agrarie, Forestali e Alimentari, UNISCAPE Representative)
Federica Larcher (Università di Torino, Dipartimento di Scienze Agrarie, Forestali e Alimentari)
Massimo Morisi (Authority in charge of communication for the landscape plan of the Tuscany Region)
Daniela Poli (CIST Centro Interuniversitario di Scienze del Territorio / Inter-university Center of Territorial Sciences)
Mariella Zoppi (Università di Firenze, UNISCAPE Executive Board Representative)

Programme

Thursday 27 June 2013, Villa Ruspoli, Piazza Indipendenza 9

9:30 ***Welcome and introduction*** Carlo Magnani, President of UNISCAPE,
Anna Marson (Minister for Spatial Planning andTerritory,Tuscany Region),
Roberto Gambino (Politecnico di Torino), On behalf of Scientific Committee

10:00 ***Awareness raising, education and participation***
Moderator: Marco Devecchi
Louise Andersson, Caroline Dahl, Anders Larsson, Ingrid Sarlšv Herlin, *The landscape observatory of Scania, a new means for landscape dialogue in Southern Sweden*
Benedetta Castiglioni, *Knowledge, awareness and sharing as keywords for a local landscape observatory: the experience of Canale di Brenta (Northeast Italy)*
Simonetta Zanon, *The project "Luoghi di valore" (Outstanding places)*
Marco Devecchi, *Launch of the fourth edition of UNISCAPE's International photo competition People's Landscapes 2013*

h. 11:45 ***Landscape Observatories Networks***
Moderator: Andrea Galli
Valerio Di Battista, *Landscape Observatories of the Piedmont Network*
Adalgisa Rubino, *Towards an Observatory of the Regional Landscape: an Hypothesis of the Tuscan Network*
Dirk Gotzmann, *Recent European Year of the Citizens and the ELC*

h. 14:00 ***Documentation, assessment and monitoring***
Moderator: Claudia Cassatella
Maggie Roe, *How can policy change be monitored? Developing a Monitoring Framework for policy change in relation to implementation of the ELC in the UK*
Andrés Caballero, *Landscape Observatory and Archive of Andalusia (OAPA)*
Mariella Zoppi, *Landscape Observatory in times of crisis*
Massimo Morisi, Anna Marson, *Observing landscape with a comparative perspective, Tuscany Region*

h. 16:00 ***Workshop degli osservatori del paesaggio regionali e nazionali italiani (regional landscape observatories in italy workshop*** (*the language of the Workshop is Italian/ in lingua italiana)*
Moderator: Marco Devecchi
Osvaldo Ferrero (Regione Piemonte), *Il panorama nazionale degli osservatori del paesaggio istituiti in attuazione del Codice*
Roberto Banchini, *The National Observatory for the Quality of Landscape, Direttore del Servizio "Tutela e qualità del paesaggio", MIBAC*
Rappresentanti di: Regione Umbria, Regione Puglia, Provincia Autonoma di Trento, Regione Lombardia
Daniela Poli, *Il piano paesaggistico della Toscana: un'occasione per innalzare la conoscenza e la coscienza di luogo* Chiude la Regione Toscana, *L'esperienza regionale*

Friday 28 June 2013, Villa Ruspoli, Piazza Indipendenza 9

h. 9:30 ***Research in progress***
Moderator: Federica Larcher
Giulia Carlone, Landscape Observatories: perspectives for the Urban Landscape?
Roberto Amatobene, Eugenia Errante, Raffaele Germano, Carmine Nigro, Bianca Maria Seardo, *Landscape Observatories and participation in landscape planning processes. An experimental method to include community evaluation.*
Letteria Calvo, *For the protection, restoration and enhancement of Mediterranean Landscapes: the role of the Landscapes Observatories.*
Luca Di Giovanni, Italian Landscape Observatories between rules and practises
Ilaria Dioli, *Landscape observatories and observers: cognitive approaches in evolution*

h. 11:15 ***Relationships with landscape and spatial policies, planning and design***
Moderator: Roberto Gambino
Pere Sala, *Landscape Observatory of Catalonia,* Director of The Landscape Observatory of Catalonia
Juan Manuel Palerm, *Landscape Observatory of the Canary Islands,* Director of the Landscape Observatory of the Canary Islands, UNISCAPE Vice President
Eduard Rosell, *The landscape in territorial governance,* Director RECEP-ENELC, European Network of Local and Regional Authorities for the Implementation of the ELC

h. 12:45 ***Problems and actions to be taken: a "Landscape Observatories Agenda"***
Moderator: Bas Pedroli
Representative Tuscany Region *(to be appointed)*
Eduard Rosell, RECEP-ENELC
Director Inge Gotzmann, CIVILSCAPE President
Pere Sala, Coordinator Landscape Observatory of Catalonia
Roberto Gambino, Politecnico di Torino and UNISCAPE Executive Board Representative
Marco Devecchi, Università di Torino, UNISCAPE Representative
Juan Manuel Palerm, Director of the Landscape Observatory of the Canary Islands

Languages of the seminar: English. Registration: Participation is free.
Kindly send an e-mail to UNISCAPE info@uniscape.eu
Organised by UNISCAPE http://www.uniscape.eu/ with the support of the Tuscany Region

Annex B

Florence Charter on the Coordination of European Landscape Observatories

under the auspices of UNISCAPE – RECEP-ENELC – CIVILSCAPE

The undersigned, on the occasion of the 5th Careggi Seminar on Landscape Observatories in Europe: From ELC Recommendations to Local Initiatives 2000-2013, which took place in Florence, at Villa Ruspoli on the 27-28 June 2013, consider that:

1. The European Landscape Convention is the cultural reference point for all activities to be carried out;

2. that the guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Member States of the Council of Europe, of February 2008, expressly provide for (Art. 10) the establishment of landscape observatories, research centres and institutions dedicated to landscape;

3. that the knowledge, management, safeguarding and enhancement of landscapes must be realised through concrete and innovative forms of participation by the populations in Europe;

4. that landscape observatories (whether institutional or independent) in the various European countries have, for many years, played an active and decisive role in involving and ensuring the participation of the populations and the authorities in landscape issues;

INTEND

today, Friday 28 June 2013 in Florence at Villa Ruspoli,

to formally recognise the establishment of European coordination of landscape observatories to actively contribute to the full implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

The undersigned of the present Charter, commit themselves to convening a meeting before the end of 2013 to approve the establishment of the coordination board. The Executive Board of UNISCAPE invites the Polytechnic of Turin and the University of Turin to take charge of the following steps of action.

Villa Ruspoli, Florence, Friday 28 June 2013

R. Pondelik, *Reminesciences,* winner section Neglected Landscapes, Fourth Edition People's Landscapes.