



Implementation of the European Landscape Convention

**“Culture and Landscape: contributions to sustainable rural
development”**

12th Summer Academy

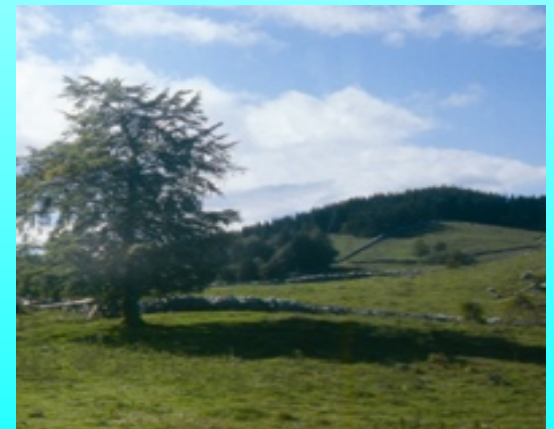
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REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA**

Abstract



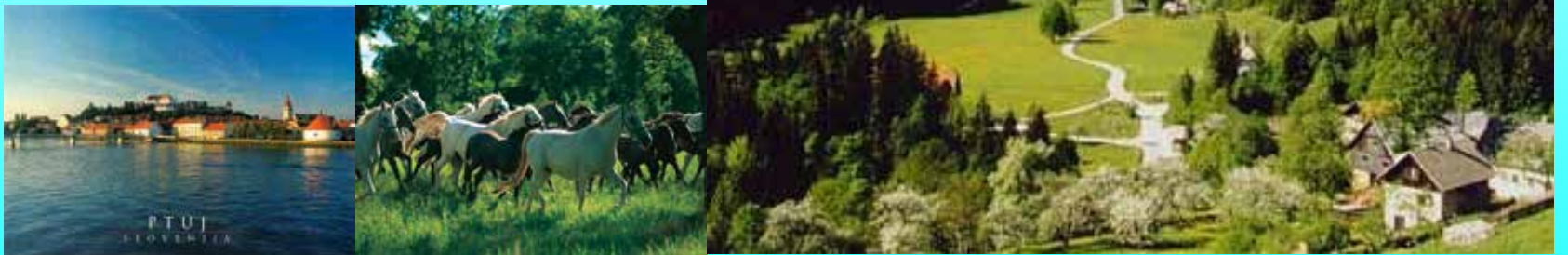
- Ø **I. part** - **Some fact about Slovenian Landscapes**
- Ø **II. part** - **Implementation of the European Landscape Convention**
- Ø **III. part** - **Slovenian projects for European Landscape Award**
- Ø **IV. part** - **Conclusions**



Slovenia's I.D.



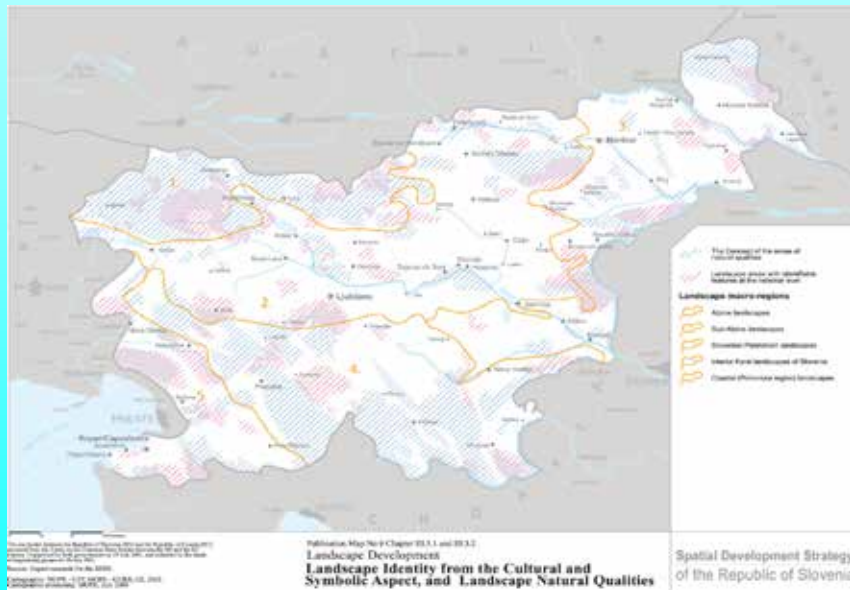
Slovenia in a small area offers an outstanding mosaic of biological, and landscape diversity, many natural assets, and cultural heritage.



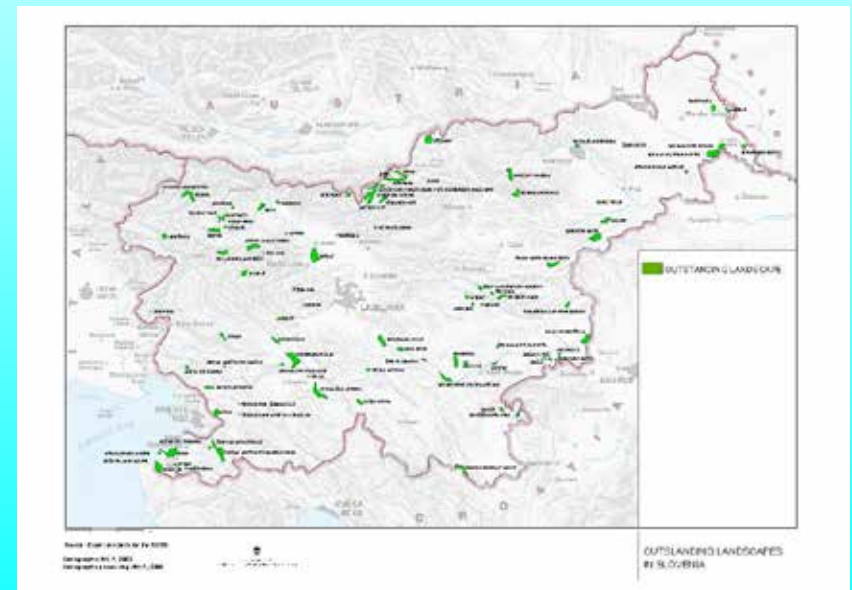
Value of the landscape in Slovenia

- The basic features of the structure of Slovenian landscapes are harmonic proportions between cultivated land, settlement and forest.
- Particularly in areas with extreme natural conditions, certain landscapes have been preserved that can be classified as outstanding landscapes.

Areas of Landscape Identity:



Slovenian Outstanding Landscapes:



Protected Areas including the Areas of Landscape Identity



National park	1.....	83,807 ha
Regional parks	3.....	43,977 ha
Landscape parks	44.....	104,210 ha
Nature reserves	49	
Natural heritage sites	623	
Total	231,994 ha

PROBLEMS OF LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT IN SLOVENIA

- **concentration of the development in the valleys,**
- **dispersed housing – suburbanization,**
- **illegal housing,**
- **infrastructure development - transit highways, railroads, utility lines,**
- **concentration of environmental pressures,**
- **abandoning of agricultural land,**
- **forestation in agriculture land,**
- **small scale farming,**
- **demographic change - depopulation in the mountains and in remote areas.**

The European Landscape Convention

promotes the protection, management and planning of European landscapes and organizes European co-operation on landscape issues.

At present the ELC is:

- ratified by 38 member states include Slovenia and
- signed by another 2.

Some important outlines of the ELC:

- landscape is important part of the quality of life for people everywhere
- landscape is a basic component of the natural and cultural heritage
- landscape protection, management and planning is entail rights and responsibilities for everyone

Implementing convention – main objective

The states signatories to the ELC are obliged to:

- identified and assessed the landscape
- introduce instruments aimed at protecting, managing and planning the landscape
- recognition of landscape as an essential component of the setting for people's lives,
- integration landscape into national legislation (policies, strategies, programs, act)
- training and education for professionals and schools
- increase awareness among civil society

Legal recognition of landscape – by national legislation

The legal regulation have been adopted in several fields:

- Ø **Natural** – conservation of ecosystems and nature values with Natura 2000, protected areas and management act,
- Ø **Cultural** – conservation cultural heritage,
- Ø **Agriculture** – conservation of extensive agricultural landscape by agro-environmental programs, direct payments,
- Ø **Spatial planning** – adjustment interests of development to preserve nature, cultural and landscape value.

IMPLEMENTATION - INTEGRATION IN SPATIAL, REGIONAL AND SECTORAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

Horizontal management planning (whole country) in the field of:

- **forestry, hunting, fishing**
- **water management** - River basin management plans
- **nature conservation** - Biodiversity Conservation Strategy of Slovenia, Managements plans of protected areas
- **spatial planning** - Spatial Management Policy of Slovenia, Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia, Spatial Planning Order



The European Landscape Award – Slovenien participation

The Landscape Award is conferred every two years, the first time in 2009. It is a very effective instrument of raising awareness, international exchange of knowledge and best practice.

The projects which was selected on the national call for Landscape Award of the Council of Europe:

- Regional distribution of landscape types in Slovenia -1 st Session 2008-2009
- We are Making our Landscape – 2 nd Session 2010-2011
- Landscape and water-management restoration of Škocjanski zatok Nature Reserve – 3 rd Session 2012-2013

Regional Distribution of Landscape Types in Slovenia

made by: University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty,
Department of Landscape Architecture

leaders: Professor Janez Marušič and Professor Dušan Ogrin

time frame: From 1991 to 1998.

The aims of the project were:

- to categorize Slovenian cultural landscapes according to visual appearance;
- to prepare the basis for establishing direct protection of outstanding Slovenian landscapes;
- to prepare guidelines for landscape development and conservation.

The first step in the work process was **the categorization of Slovenian regions** into broad landscape units. The first level of classification was based primarily on climatic and geological properties, the second level included macro-relief criteria, and the most important criterion of the last two levels was landscape image. The results of the research project were presented in six notebooks that were published in 1998.



We are Making our Landscape

made by: Slovenian Association of Landscape Architects

leaders: Nataša Bratina Jurkovič and Jelena Hladnik

time frame: October 2004 – May 2005

The aims of the project were educational and public awareness-raising among the teachers and children's.



Activities and events in the framework of the project

- **Publication of a series posters Slovenian Landscapes**
- **A seminar with a workshop to inform teachers about the project**
- **Competition for art and photographic works**
- **Exhibition of the best works and ceremony of awards**
- **Publishing of a brochure about the project**



Landscape and water-management restoration of Škocjanski zatok Nature Reserve

- **made by:** BirdLife Slovenia
- **time frame:** From 2001 to 2007

The aims of the project were:

- restored semi-natural coastal wetland ecosystem
- restored natural landscape on coastline
- enabling education, recreation and nature experience
- restored area organized as wetland centre – classroom in the nature

The Škocjanski zatok restoration is one of the best examples of successful co-operation among governmental and non-governmental sectors in Slovenia.



CONCLUSIONS

We think that we can be satisfied when we:

- Ø be aware that quality of landscape also means raising the quality of life,
- Ø planning development and protection of landscape everywhere,
- Ø making quality landscapes in nature, agriculture and in urban space.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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