



22nd Summer Academy

“Responsible Food Production and Consumption for a sustainable future”

to be held in Nea Makri, Greece and the surrounding area

from 16th to 20th June 2024

FOOD AND LANDSCAPE

HOW SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PRODUCES LANDSCAPES OF QUALITY

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THE QUALITY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPES

Agriculture covers 175 million hectares of Europe and shapes the landscape like no other activity. Diverse in every aspect, agriculture has been affected by ecology, the environment, culture and history, policies and economics, and, in return, affected by them.

The **European Landscape Convention** (Florence, 2000) gives a central role to the landscape as a witness to the identity of the places and communities settled and an essential aspect of the "life framework" of the populations, in the knowledge, interpretation and design of the territory.



THE QUALITY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPES



THE QUALITY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPES

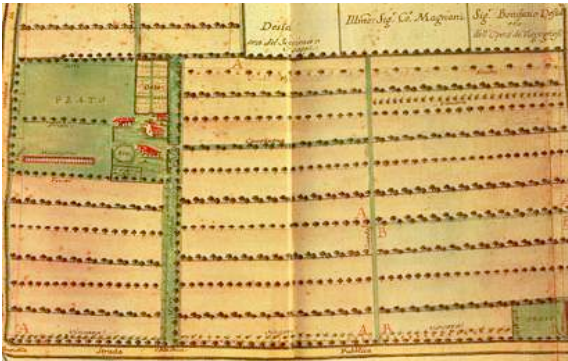
Cereals and poplar grove. Po valley



Vineyards. Collio hills

THE QUALITY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPES

Wheat, bluebottles and
ecostructures – wooded
buffer, tree rows, hedges
Po valley (Lombardy)



THE QUALITY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPES

For the Landscape Architects, **Quality Landscapes** represent concrete examples of places where agri-food quality is produced in a quality landscape context, supported by a local community that knows how to use the resources of the territory in which it lives and works in a sustainable way.

(2010, Memorandum of Understanding between Slow Food Italy and AIAPP).



SIEPI in progetto



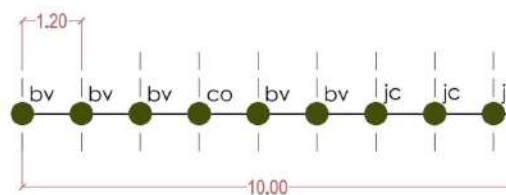
Schema di impianto SIEPI:

Lunghezza totale: 1.105 m



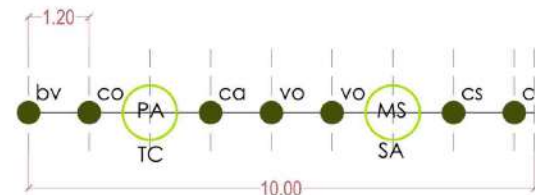
Schema di impianto A

Lunghezza 200 m



Schema di impianto B (Siepe doppia)

Lunghezza 357,5+357,5=715 m



Landscape Architects can make a difference by adopting a holistic approach in planning and designing multifunctional agricultural landscapes.

THE QUALITY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPES

We assume that rurality is the complex of different patterns, economics and social, that is able to shape a **landscape** during time, called **co-evolution** (van der Ploeg), but it also hosts different models from the 'city point of view'. Nowadays, the majority of policies makers, public administrator and also the wide public live in the cities.

The citizens think that the countryside is a place where food is produced by 'specialist' (the farmers) or a destination for the holidays.

Countryside is much more, it's also a place where different relationships are cultivated

It's beauty, social values, communities, benefits and ecosystem services for all



THE QUALITY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPES

About which kind of Agriculture are we speaking?

- conventional
- traditional
- sustainable
- agroecological
- organic
- regenerative
- conservative
- peri-urban
- vertical farming
-creative?



THE QUALITY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPES

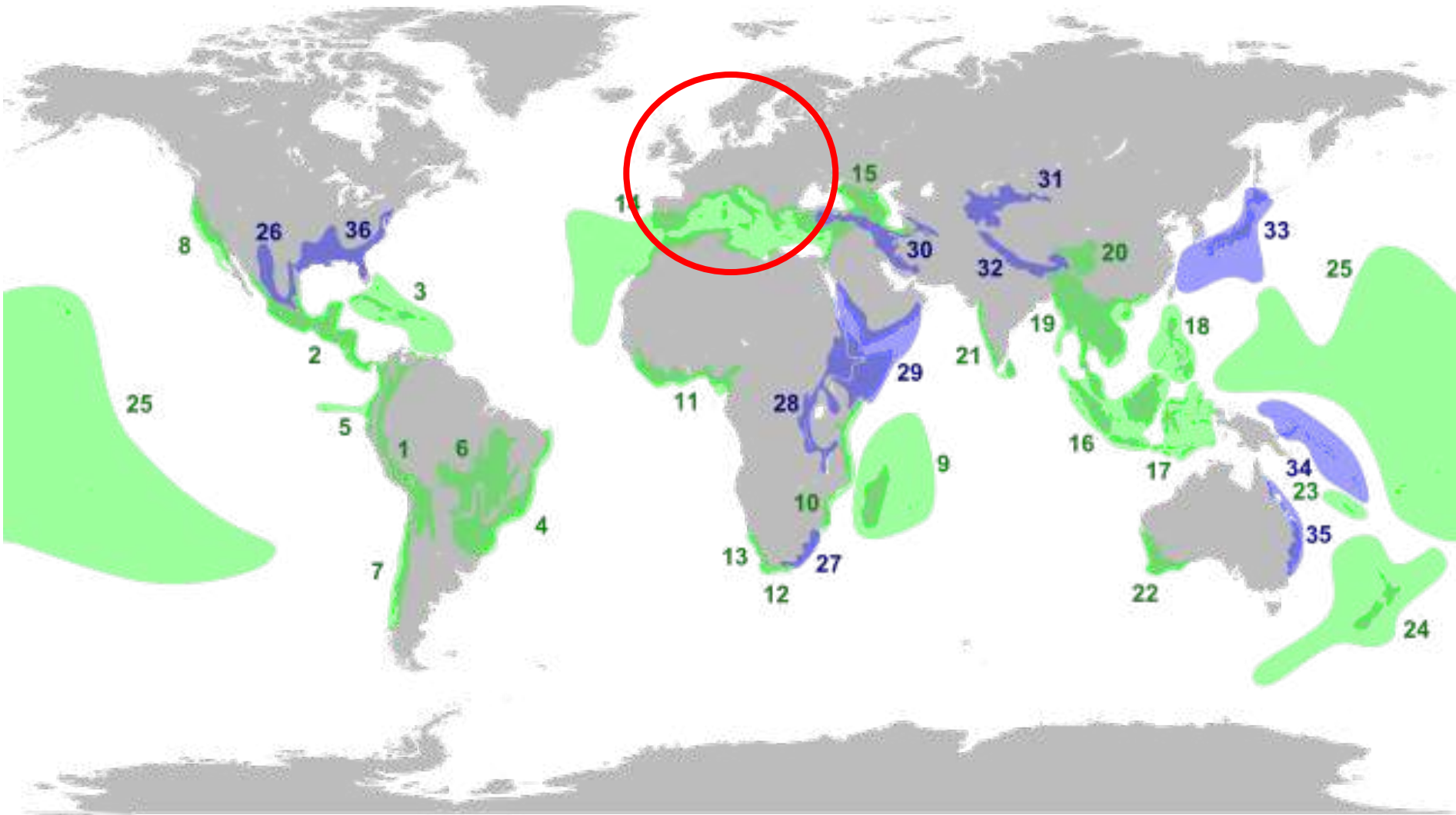
Main differences between a conventional and a traditional , organic, etc., agriculture

- Multifunctionality
- Good, clean and fair food production
- Conservation of soil fertility
- Biodiversity
- Blue&Green Ecostructures (wood buffer, wetlands, tree rows, hedges, ...)
- Food security, sovereignty and promotion of territorial justice
- Heritage systems, rural architecture, equipment, ...
- Landscape centrality



820 million undernourished people in the world, living in rural areas, it is a means to face hunger

THE GLOBAL BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT



BIODIVERSITY IN AGRICULTURE



Francesca Neonato

THE MAIN DRIVERS OF CHANGE



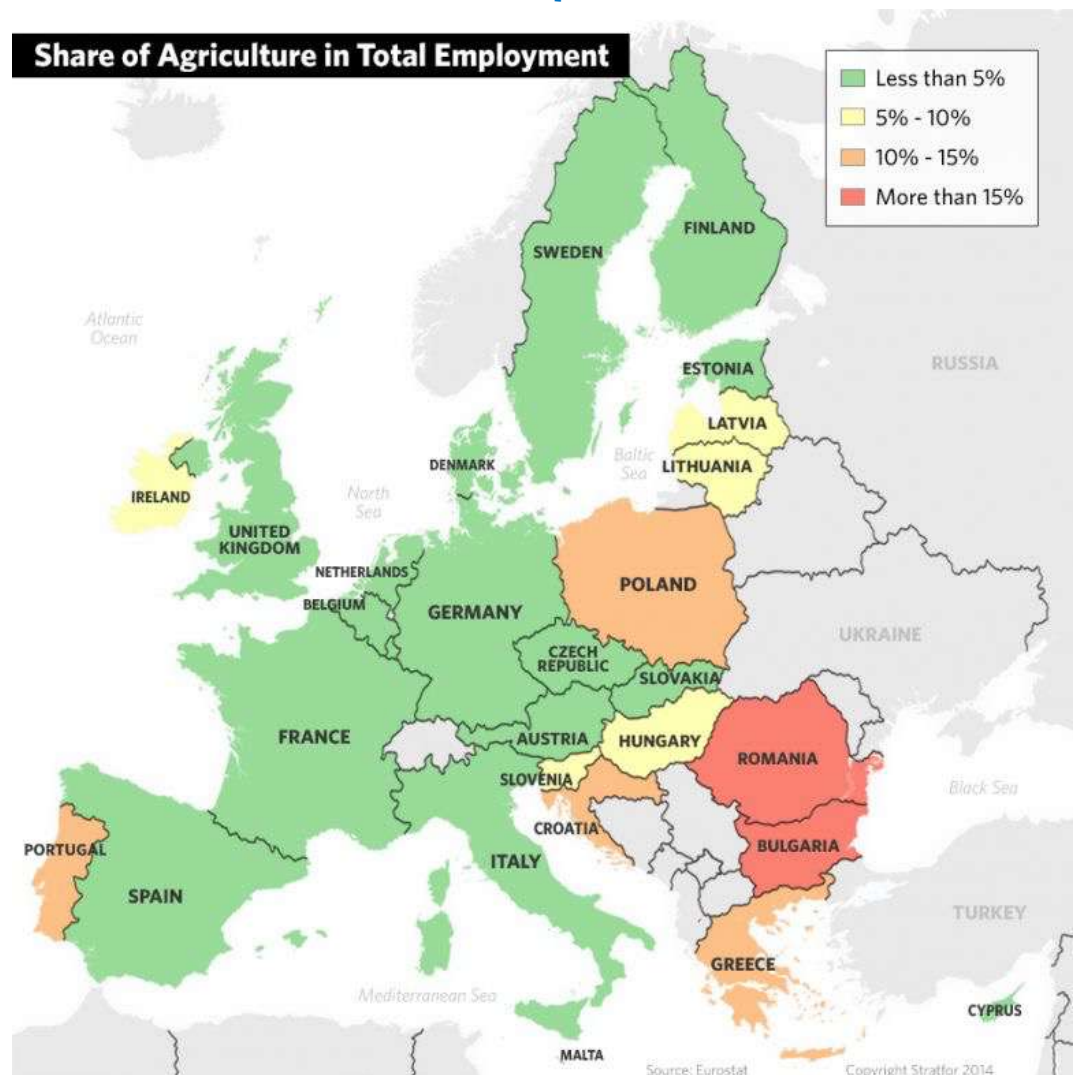
TRANSFORMATION

PROS AND CONS OF THE GREEN REVOLUTION



THE QUALITY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPES. THE NEW CAP 2021-27

- **83%** of the EU surface are covered by agricultural areas and forests
- **1 in 3** European lives in the countryside
- **95% of farms** (mainly small and family farms), manage more than **60% of agricultural land** and **absorb 80% of the workforce**
- **31%** of the total EU budget (€387 billion) is absorbed by the new CAP (37.8% in 2014-2020 and 66% in the early 1980s)
- **80% will be distributed to only 20% of farms**, the largest ones and the agro-industrial chain
(2024, European Commission)



THE QUALITY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPES



The street protests of recent months have led to a scaling back of the objectives of the New Green Deal, with the "*possibility of temporarily suspending the provisions on agricultural ecosystems in exceptional circumstances*" provided for by the CAP (Austria, Belgium, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Sweden, Poland, The Netherlands)

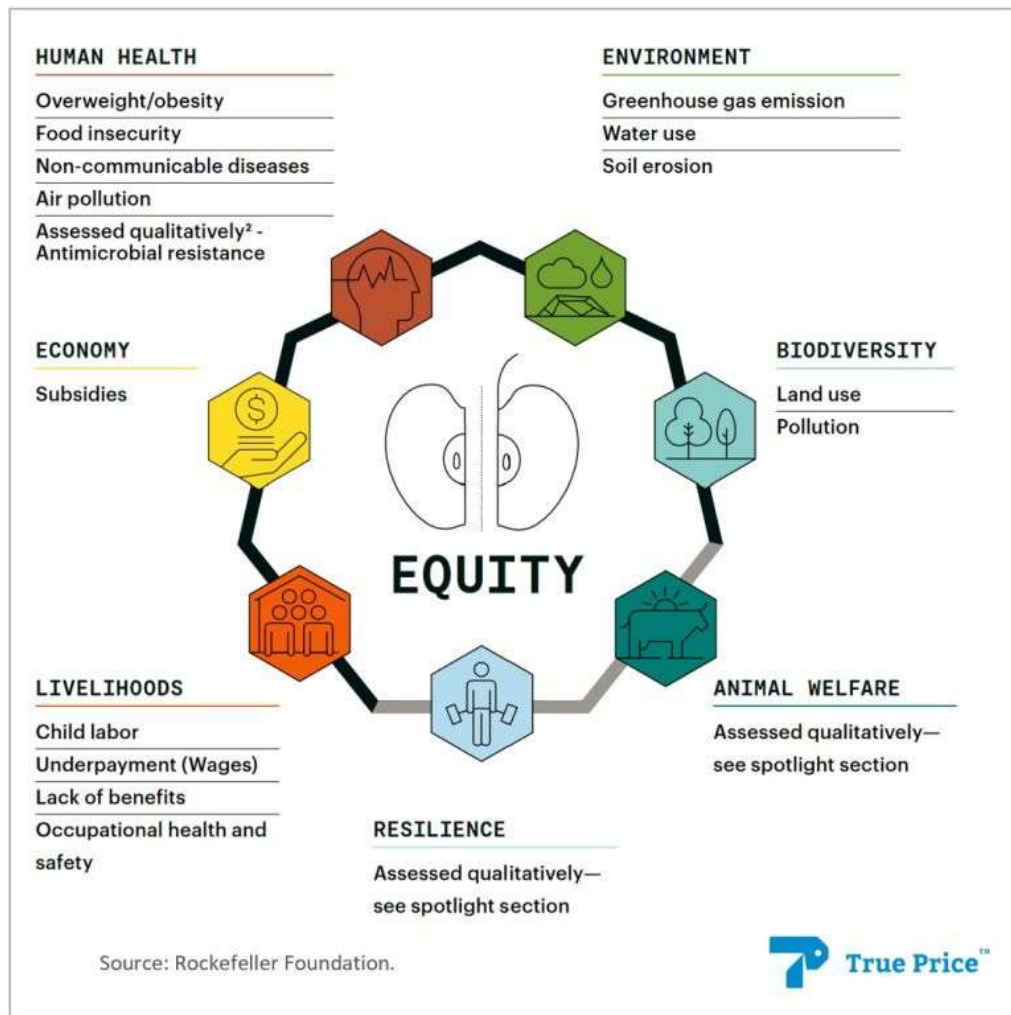
at the beginning of 1900, the income for the farmers was 30% of the final price, today it barely reaches 7%

THE QUALITY OF THE RURAL LANDSCAPES

During the Food System Pre-Summit (Rome, 26-28 July 2021), it was emphasized that the price of food usually does not include **'hidden' costs**, such as impacts on the environment and human health (economic externalities).

A sustainable economy must focus on real prices. Consumers must be clear that the higher prices of organic are directly linked to how it is grown, the final price contains these higher expenses, while the low price of food offloads the **costs of pollution, loss of fertility and biodiversity, impacts on human health** to others.

<https://trueprice.org/>



FOOD IS LANDSCAPE

“Agriculture is not an industry or a trade, but it is the care of Mother Earth, it is growing food for society, the highest and most essential form of livelihood, with freedom and dignity.

Food is not a commodity produced for the profit of multinational companies, but the very basis of life” and producing it in a sustainable way “is not a luxury, but our duty”.

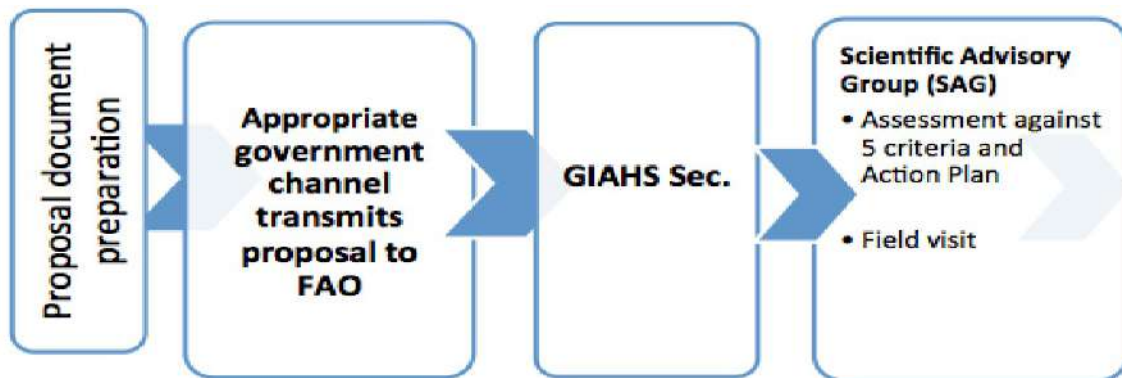
Food is obviously indispensable for nutrition, but, additionally, preparing and sharing food is inextricably linked to cultural expression



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UN FAO program GIAHS (Global Importance Agricultural Heritage System)



- Food and livelihood security
- Agro-biodiversity
- Local and Traditional Knowledge Systems
- Cultures, Value systems and Social Organizations
- **Landscapes** and Seascapes Features

DYNAMIC CONSERVATION



FOOD IS LANDSCAPE

Since 2005, FAO has designated **86 systems in 26 countries** as agricultural heritage sites

GIAHS in Europe

- 5 in Spain, 2 in Italy, 1 in Portugal, 1 in Andorra, 1 in Austria
- 3 ongoing processes



TERRACED VINEYARDS LANDSCAPE, VALLE DI CEMBRA, TRENTINO

Area: 13,533 ha

Agricultural and ecological framework: the cultivated area of the valley equals to 10% of the total area; vineyards occupy 56% of the cultivated area, almost entirely on terraces. Other crops are orchards, vegetables, small fruits and meadows. 80% is forested.

Main topological features: terraced vineyards, mixed forests, “V” shaped glacial valley and secondary river valleys, porphyry quarries and mountain system.

Climate classification: in between pre-Alpine and continental climate



The heroic viticulture

TERRACED VINEYARDS LANDSCAPE, VALLE DI CEMBRA, TRENTINO



Registered in the Italian National Register of Rural Historic Landscapes in 2021, it has submitted for GIAHS recognition.

NAVIGLI BIODISTRICT, INTEGRATED AREA PROJECT, LOMBARDY

Area: 26,000 hectares

RiverTicino Park MAB (Man & Biosphere)

South Agricultural Park of Milan

Regional ecological Network Primary Corridor

Natura 2000 sites (SACs, SPAs)

Woodlands

Waterways (Ticino, Navigli, RIM)

Hiking system (European Trail E1)

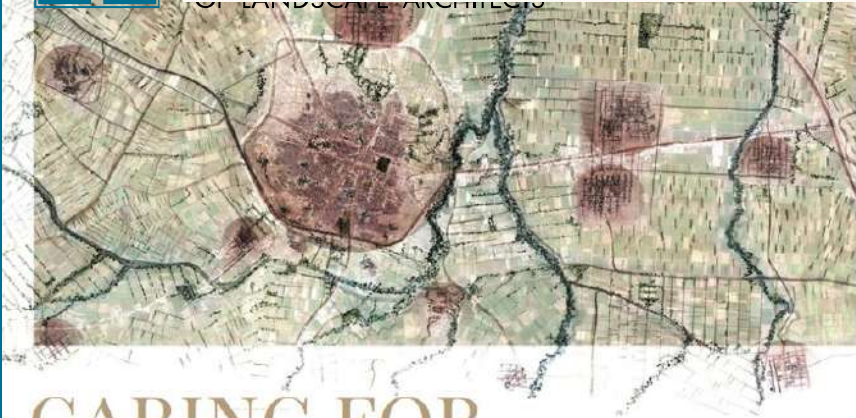


OBJECTIVES:

1. Introduction of an agroecological model
2. Professional growth, dissemination of good practices and strengthening of the network among farms
3. Participatory synergies between companies
4. Increasing biodiversity as a demonstration of the quality of landscape production
5. Increased usability of the area and recognisability according to agritourism activities



Why Landscape Architects care for Agricultural Landscapes



CARING FOR AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES

As CULTURAL HERITAGE
AGROECOSYSTEMS AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE

Agri-Cultural landscapes have emerged over centuries, reflecting the Europe's history. Dynamic conservation strategies and processes allow biodiversity and essential ecosystem services to be maintained thanks to continuous innovation, transfer between generations, and exchange with other communities and ecosystems. The wealth and breadth of accumulated knowledge and experience in the management and use of resources is a globally significant treasure that needs to be promoted and conserved and allowed to evolve.

Landscape Architects can make a difference by adopting a holistic approach in planning and designing and managing multifunctional agricultural landscapes, and in applying aesthetic and scientific principles to address the sustainability, quality and health of landscapes, collective memory, heritage and culture, and territorial justice.

https://www.iflaeurope.eu/assets/docs/IFLA_EU_Caring_for_Agricultural_Landscapes_leaflet.pdf

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Agricultural landscape of Karditsa, Greece
Sketch by Lena Athanasiadou



IFLA Europe Working Group
Agricultural Landscapes
Under the authority of the Vice President Professional Practice Katerina Gkioitziou
WG Chair: Francesca Neonato Members: Lena Athanasiadou, Albert Fekete, Daniela Micanovic, Nicoletta Piersantelli, Manuel Sánchez, Klara Salzmann, Steffi Schüppel



IFLA EUROPE
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

PEOPLE

IN TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES IN EUROPE PHOTO COMPETITION 2024

<https://iflaeurope.eu/index.php/site/general/rural-landscapes-photo-competition>

20 April 2024

Launch of the competition

20 August

Deadline for sending entries

20 September

Jury review

20 October 2024

Proclamation of the winner at IFLA Europe General Assembly in Budapest.



IFLA EUROPE
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION
OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

IFLA Europe, the European Regional of
International Federation of Landscape Architects
Rural Landscapes Photo Competition 2022

Book of Entries

Francesca Neonato



Thank for your attention

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