



### **1.1. Best achievements in terms of the implementation of the ELC:**

- Identification of valuable rural landscapes and local identities
- Constructive and inclusive approach in the MoE and all the other partners
- International cooperation in the framework of the ELC\_EU

### **1.2. Pending issues in terms of the implementation of the ELC:**

- A comprehensive study of Finnish Landscapes based on the principles and spirit of the ELC
- A National Landscape Policy for urban and rural areas (all types of landscape). Landscape can unify and coordinate the existing sectoral policies.
- A legal recognition of the landscape according to the ELC. Now it is mainly mentioned in other legal frameworks or/and with a visual point of view (Land Use and Building Act, Environmental laws, etc.)
- Identify clearly landscape challenges (e.g. intensified forestry, climate change, urbanization, depopulation of rural areas)
- Extend landscape study, assessment and planning to ordinary or non-valued landscapes. Investigate landscape values and how to deal with them to upgrade any sort of landscape
- Monitor Finnish landscapes and its main dynamics in all types of landscapes
- Integrate landscape in local and regional planning (consider the role of landscape in the forthcoming Regional Reform in Finland and in the revision of the Land Use and Building Act). Conciliate interests
- Reinforce the role of landscape as an integrative element in spatial, sectoral and cultural planning
- Define Landscape Quality Objectives (Finland, regions, municipalities)
- Integrate the economic dimension of the landscape and the social benefits provided by an appreciated and well-managed landscape.
- Increase the role of Public Participation, flexibility and bottom-up approaches in the above mentioned works
- Increase Landscape social awareness and training-education at all levels
- Promote exchange of knowledge and experiences, both internally and abroad
- Increase the collaboration with NGOs and the private sector (associations of farmers, forest industries, etc.)
- Coordinate ELC with other relevant strategies (Cultural Environments, Sustainable Development, Climate Change, Energy, Logistics)
- Promote Nordic and local landscape studies and projects
- Articulate all the above-mentioned issues in a coherent body of projects.

### **1.3. Strengths of Finland in terms of the future implementation of the ELC (organizational, topical, etc.):**

- General interest at the governmental and academic level



- Constitutional law: right/duty to the environment
- Role of landscape in the construction of the national identity
- Consistent works and studies in valuable rural landscapes, forest management, water related, landscapes and in their socio-economic dimensions
- Diverse and integrative landscape research
- Culture of collaboration and inclusiveness
- Long history of voluntary landscape conservation work
- Highly educated and responsible society with a social concern about the environment and well established national and regional environmental authorities.
- Finnish aspiration to excel and to become a worldwide reference in environmental, social and economic sustainability
- Effective implementation of agreed decisions and plans
- Good combination of top-down and bottom-up decisions
- Some local organizations working as “local landscape observatories”
- Many of the key landscape research elements are already in Finland but they need to be connected
- Finnish Strategy for Cultural Environments and Strategy for Sustainable Development

#### **1.4. Challenges of Finland in terms of the implementation of the ELC (organizational, topical, etc.):**

- Unclear identification of main landscape challenges (e.g. intensified forestry, climate change, urbanization, depopulation of rural areas)
- Deregulation and increasing lack of confidence amongst some political and social sectors in planning
- Changing institutional situation (a threat and an opportunity...)
- Administrative difficulties to integrate landscape in planning
- Landscape issues are rather low on both public and political agenda
- Political, social and conceptual tensions and misunderstandings when dealing with the landscape (e.g. farmers and government, definition of landscape, etc). New political, social and conceptual BRIDGES need to be created and the Observatory can play a role on that.
- Gaps and lack of connection between the agendas and tools in different scales (national, regional, local)
- National agenda highly focused in Metropolitan areas
- Landscape is still mainly understood in aesthetic and rural terms
- Poor resourcing and lack of coordination
- Disconnection between landscape research and decision making processes
- Fragmented approach from different academic and governmental institutions
- Lack of coordination with the Finnish Strategy for Cultural Environments and the Strategy for Sustainable Development
- No extensive NGOs connected to landscape, environmental and cultural management.



- Lack of stakeholders and policies at the national level (NGOs operate mainly at the local level)
- Fragmented and disconnected research
- Reinforce the collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture. Following the EU framework, they have a strategic interest and resources to support studies and implementation of projects in rural development.

### 2.1. Current works developed by your institution regarding the ELC or related topics:

- SYKE: None now. Just finished re-evaluation of nationally valuable rural landscapes.
- AALTO: Reinforcing the integral and proactive approach to the landscape promoted by the ELC in different courses of the Master, Bachelor and Master programs in Landscape Architecture (three main lines: landscape and ecology, landscape and culture/society/economy, landscape and environmental planning tools).

#### DEPT of ARCHITECTURE:

- Studies on Landscape Design & Planning: Landscape Characterization and Assessment, Landscape History, Cultural Landscapes, Historical Gardens and Restoration, History of Finnish Landscape Architecture, Landscape Spatiality and Materiality, Landscapes and Production, Landscape Ecology, Green Infrastructures and Ecosystem Services, Sustainable Development, Water Sensible Urban Design, Climate adaptation, Landscape Urbanism, Landscape and Governance, Computational Methodologies in Landscape Architecture and Urban Design, Urban Planning and Design
- Research on Landscape Design & Planning: VirMa-group, Green Infrastructures, Storm Water Management, Modern Landscape Architecture in Finland, Manor Landscapes and Urbanisation, National Urban Parks, Green Structure and Densification, Computational Methodologies in Landscape Architecture
- Studies and research on Urban Design & Planning: Regional and City Planning, Urban Design, Wooden Towns, Sustainable Urban Design, Communicative Planning
- Studies and research on History and Theory of Architecture: History of Finnish Architecture, Building Conservation, Renovation of Traditional Structures, Cultural Heritage Management

#### DEPT of BUILT ENVIRONMENT:

- Studies and Research on Land Use Planning, Urbanisation, Public Participation and GIS, Human aspects in urban planning, Aalto Built Environment Laboratory (ABE), Social sustainability, Health promoting environments, Environmental justice and green-blue space planning, Social and environmental assessment, Practice research on urban development and land-use planning with focus on collaborative processes and methodology, Smart city, Climate Change, Energy, Vulnerability analyses, Land use and climate change impacts in hydrology, Digitalization of planning, Geospatial computing

#### DEPT of DESIGN:

- Research on Design for sustainability and transitions, Design for self-governance, New business models for sustainability, Transdisciplinary Research, Sustainable development, Design activism, Interactive spaces, Design for Government



DEPT of MEDIA:

- Research on Digital Cultural Heritage (Systems of Representation), Culture Kick - co-created narratives and mash-ups in museum
- LUKE: Research on:
  - Landscape perception and Landscape dynamics
  - Landscape assessment (preferences and simulations)
  - Landscape value (willingness to pay)
  - Landscape identity
  - Ecosystem services (cultural services, landscape and economic relevance)
  - Cultural sustainability
  - Landscape integration (wind energy)
- UTU\_ Degree Programme of Cultural Production and Landscape Studies:
  - Interdisciplinary, phenomenon-based: cultural signification and interaction with environment
  - Interfaces with arts and cultural studies, environmental history, archaeology, human geography, tourism studies
- UTU\_ Landscape Geography at UTU.
  - Research with integrated landscape approach:
  - Landscape Phenomenology and non-representational theory
  - Landscape ecology and land change studies
  - Participation and participatory mapping of landscape practices and values
  - Ecosystem services/landscape services/development and planning issues/landscape characterization
  - Geospatial methods, remote sensing, GIS, PGIS etc.
  - A holistic geography degree programmes (BSc. Msc, PhD) addressing different types of landscapes (rural, agricultural, urban, sub-arctic) from different points of view (ecological, societal and economic) in a proactive way (management and planning).
  - 4-5 senior researchers and several doctoral students
- UTU\_Biology
  - landscape ecology, biodiversity, traditional rural biotopes, meadows
  - Degree programme (MSc) with specialization into biogeography
- UTU\_Archeology
  - pre-historic and archeological landscape research
  - mapping and visualization methods
- UHELSINKI
  - several doctoral programmes deal with landscape issues from cultural/aesthetics to environmental/ecological sciences
- UHELSINKI, Geology & geography
  - cultural and landscape geography
  - physical geography, e.g. effects of climate change
  - arctic research
  - Urban Academy (urban geography) in collaboration with Fac of Social Sciences and Biological & Environmental Sciences + Aalto University



- U HELSINKI, Faculty of Humanities
  - indigenous people research
  - research project: Luonto taiteessa, kulttuurissa ja historiassa. Maiseman kerrostuneisuus ja luonnon moninaisuus (Nature in art, culture and history. Hierarchies of the landscape and diversity of nature)
  - Helsinki Digital Humanities (several faculties in UH, Aalto, and other partners)
  - archeology
- U HELSINKI, Faculty of Social Sciences
  - Environmental history
  - Urban Academy (urban studies, sociology) in collaboration with Fac of Humanities and Biological & Environmental Sciences + Aalto University
- U HELSINKI, Faculty of Biological and Environmental Sciences
  - Urban ecology and ecosystems research includes issues of urban landscapes, green infrastructure, planning etc.
  - green roofs research
  - landscape ecology
  - Urban Academy in collaboration with Fac of Humanities and Social Sciences + Aalto University
- U HELSINKI, Swedish Scholl of Social Science
  - Forum research network focuses on rural development and archipelagos
- U HELSINKI, Faculty of Agriculture and Forestry
  - forest ecology and landscape (e.g. disturbance dynamics, forestry)
  - agricultural ecology, agroecosystems
  - Ruralia institute has several projects related to rural landscapes
- UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ:
- UNIVERSITY OF OULU:
  - Architecture: research on changing arctic cultural environments, history of architecture, restoration, urban design and planning
  - Humanistic Sciences: research on history and archaeology with focus on nordic past, environment and cultural processes, northern archaeological cultural heritage, Lappish mining history, cultural and environmental interaction, arctic and northern phenomena.
  - Natural Sciences: research on regional studies and politics with focus on rural areas, geoinformatics, cultural, political and tourism geography, biogeography with focus on environmental change.
- UNIVERSITY OF LAPLAND:
  - Research on sustainable development, social and environmental justice, northern cultures and natural resources with focus on Sami culture and societies, nature education, environmental and cultural impact assessment, northern wellbeing, education and work, responsible tourism, cultural service design with focus on tourism and social services.
  - Research on Arts: northern art and culture with focus on Sami culture, communal art education, applied art in northern environment, environmental art in tourist resorts.
  - Research in Arctic Centre: interdisciplinary research on arctic people, culture and environment.
  - Research in Institute for Northern Culture: northern and arctic cultures.



- UNIVERSITY OF EASTERN FINLAND:
  - Research on humanistic field: changing Finnish soundscapes, changes of Finnish cattle breeding
  - Research on social and economic field: Border studies, the Integration of the Karelian Periphery in European Society, the Urban Space of Vyborg, Environmental history of the Green Belt of Fennoscandia, the Frontier of Sustainability Transitions: Cultural Adaptations of Sustainability Policies in European Peripheral Regions.
  - Research in the Institute for Natural Resources, Environment and Society: Climate Change, Energy and Environmental Law, Responsible Mining, Human-Animal Studies
  - Research in the Karelian Institute: Border Studies with focus on history, migration, ethnic relationships and cultural traditions. Regional and Rural Studies with focus on socio-economic development of periphery and utilisation of rural resources.
  - Research on Tourism Studies, nature tourism, wellness tourism
- UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY IN LAPPEENRANTA:
  - Research on clean energy, circular economy, sustainable business and digitalization
  - Research in the South Karelian Institute: cultural studies, social and environmental impacts of wind energy.
- ART UNIVERSITY: time and space art with focus on processes
- UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY IN TAMPERE
  - Energy and ecological efficiency
  - Architecture: history of architecture, urban studies, urban design and planning with focus on urbanisation and changing built environment, EDGE Urban Laboratory with focus on urban morphologies and typologies, Seinäjoki Urban Laboratory with focus on changing built environment, preservation of modern architecture.
- UNIVERSITY OF TAMPERE
  - Environmental Policy
  - Social and Cultural Sciences: research on industrial history, urban history, environmental psychology, restorative environments, wellbeing in natural environments.
  - Centre for Environmental Management: research on environmental history.
- ÅBO AKADEMI, ACADEMY OF ÅBO
  - Research on environmental history, sea history.
- MARK: Landscape in land use planning: the goal is to get landscapes more visible in the legislation (Mervi Vallinkoski leading this work in MARK).

## 2.2. Main interests/expectations of your institution for the Landscape Observatory of Finland and the ELC:

- NBA:
  - Interaction between nature and culture and holistic approach to cultural environments
  - Landscape characterization and assessment: Research, analysis, surveys
  - Landscape management: Analysis, tools
  - Monitoring the state of cultural environment /landscape (pending since..?)
  - A platform for collaboration: Orientation, definition of priorities and financing (projects and partnerships)



- Specific issues that would require EU and national policy orientations and that are also important for the NBA: Underwater landscape/seascape, Forests, Post war environments, City/townscapes, World heritage sites and issues.
- Societal issues: Initiatives, societal discussion, visibility of landscape issues
- UNIVERSITIES (in general): Tangible, visible and academically sounded Research
- UTU:
  - Joint research projects. Open discussion arena for evidence-based policymaking.
  - Development of disciplinary and academic research
  - Define our topics and goals (show the best examples created in Europe after the ELC)
  - Assessment on Landscape Research in Finland
  - Integration of basic and applied research
  - networking with landscape research and experts, finding partners for research funding
  - possibility to make policy/political impacts in Finland on landscape issues and approaches
  - Blue Landscape: maritime and others
- UH\_Environment: Nature-based solutions, climate change, biodiversity. UH: extend
- SYKE: No evident expectations.
- AALTO: A common forum for discussion and for developing socially useful and academically relevant research in Landscape Planning. A tool to promote strong and sustainable bonds between people and land
- LUKE: Define a Research Plan for the future based in solid argumentations and evidence. This would be essential to establish a durable research line and team in LUKE (now only part time researchers)
- MARK: Reinforce practice based and planning oriented research
- GENERAL: Produce a VISION / MANIFESTO (Strategy) to prove in our institutions and externally the benefits that the ELC and landscape research & planning can bring to Finland. Show the alignment of the Vision/ Manifesto (Strategy) with the respective agendas of the government and partner institutions. POSSIBLE APPROACH: a Finnish “Landscape Convention“ inspired by the ELC and based in the Finnish specificities. OBJECTIVE: present the MANIFESTO in December 2017

### **2.3. Main problems that your institution is facing to advance in landscape studies, research or professional works:**

- Develop our landscape expertise accepting our limited resources and maximizing the potential of the Observatory network
- Identify key researchers and facilitate their activity and interaction
- Lack of students interested in landscape planning, especially in the middle and big scale
- Descriptive approach to the landscape and lack of proactive intentions





- Difficulties to integrate clearly the ecological, cultural and economic dimensions of the landscape
- It is rather difficult to find suitable funding instruments for holistic landscape research initiatives in Finland (since most of the funding is often sectorial)
- Lack of critical mass
- Low political interest
- Maisema is mainly understood as a visual concept by many Finnish people

#### **2.4. Human, economic and material resources for the basic functioning of the Landscape Observatory of Finland (special projects not included). Please consider the whole scope of your Institution:**

- UTU: participate in the steering group and provide research expertise and research staff as needed
- NBA: Participation in the steering group, manifold expertise on cultural environments (built, archaeological, underwater etc.), our information and data services (incl. intergovernmental aspects). A possible but modest permanent annual or occasional project based financial input
- AALTO:
  - Human resources: a small group of researchers but they have to find the specific links of Landscape Planning with their own fields of expertise. Their participation depends on the availability of external funding.
  - Economic resources: Modest budget from the personal budget of the involved professors.
  - Material resources: Aalto University and the School of ARTS offer logistic support for the Observatory (premises and minor domestic expenses)

#### **3.1. Strategic partners that we are missing in the Landscape Observatory:**

- Other social or civics groups (Proagria, Finnish Local Heritage Federation, representatives of National Valuable Landscapes Areas, etc.).
- SITRA does not fund research but can be a strategic partner
- Ministry of Agriculture
- A national agency-institution in charge of major infrastructures
- NGOs interested in the cultural and natural environment
- It would be interesting to host in the Observatory a network of Cities or Municipalities supporting the ELC
- The renewal of territorial administration (maakuntaudistus) might also bring new partners, as the role of ELY-centres changes.
- UNISCAPE (European network of Universities for the implementation of the ELC): UTU and Aalto are already members
- CIVILSCAPE (Network of civil society organizations for the implementation of the ELC): FÖSS (National Association of Finnish Islands); Suomen Kotiseutuliitto (The Finnish Local Heritage Federation) and MARK (Finnish Association of Landscape Architects)
- Metsähallitus (should be asked to join the network)





- Geographical Society of Finland
- IALE Europe
- PecsRL network
- LUCAS survey Europe (Eurostat)
- European Universities, who are active in landscape research issues (eg. Ghent, Stockholm, Copenhagen...)
- Finnish Association for Nature conservation (they are already members of CIVILSCAPE)
- Finnish Transport Agency (Liikennevirasto)
- League of Finnish Municipalities
- The possible new partners will be invited to join the CONSORTIUM for the LANDSCAPE OBSERVATORY OF FINLAND in December 2017 (some of the proposed ones were invited to join the Consortium in 2016 but no answer was received).
- Sampo ruoppila UTU
- Viherympäristöliitto (VYL) Association of Finnish Landscape Industries

### 3.2. Possible joint funded project:

SUGGESTED PROJECTS	IMPORTANCE	URGENCY
<p><b>1. LANDSCAPE CHARACTERIZATION in/of FINLAND (Final result):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include the new insights, objectives and proactive approach proposed by the ELC</li> <li>• Integrate relevant national agencies that are now disconnected from landscape issues (traffic, forestry, etc.)</li> <li>• Address urgent and crucial issues: climate change, sustainable development, public participation, link between landscape and the political agenda, cultural environments, etc.</li> <li>• The project prepared by UTU could readapted and resubmitted as part of the Landscape Observatory activity. A methodological discussion might be needed.</li> <li>• The new landscape map of Finland might bridge our Action Plan and Research Plan. It can integrate the work of researchers and practitioners.</li> <li>• Funding programme, partners and deadlines?? (Aalto University will explore it)</li> </ul>		
<p><b>2. DIDACTIC MATERIALS ABOUT FINNISH LANDSCAPES (Final result):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set of materials for primary and secondary School?</li> <li>• Monographic work or include as part of the new landscape characterization of Finland?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>3. LANDSCAPE INDICATORS AND MONITORING (Tool):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The implication of the civil society and a participative approach would be crucial.</li> <li>• Landscape indicators have been quite important for the activity of some key landscape Observatories</li> <li>• Evidence and indicators are essential to have some real impact and influence. Landscape Observatories should work on that</li> <li>• This work can be linked to the new Landscape Characterization of Finland and with the definition of Landscape Quality Objectives</li> <li>• Funding programme, partners and deadlines??</li> </ul>		
<p><b>4. LANDSCAPE QUALITY OBJECTIVES (Tool):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This work can be linked to the new Landscape Characterization of Finland and with the landscape Indicators</li> <li>• They can be defined at different scales (national, regional, local)</li> <li>• Funding programme, partners and deadlines??</li> </ul>		



<p><b>5. A NATIONAL/REGIONAL/LOCAL LANDSCAPE POLICY AND STRATEGY (Tool) :</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of an operative framework to integrate national, regional and local landscape policies and planning</li> <li>• Definition of Landscape Policy/policies and Strategies coordinated with other relevant national, regional or local policies or strategies</li> <li>• They can be defined at different scales (national, regional, local)</li> <li>• Funding programme, partners and deadlines??</li> </ul>		
<p><b>6. A FINNISH LANDSCAPE LABORATORY (Tool):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define and promote Actions on Landscape (protection, management and planning)</li> </ul>		
<p><b>7. CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS EFFECT ON FINNISH LANDSCAPES (Topic):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monographic work or include as part of the new landscape characterization of Finland?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>8. RURAL FINNISH LANDSCAPES(Topic):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monographic work or include as part of the new landscape characterization of Finland?</li> <li>• Funding from the Ministry of Agriculture and EU?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>9. FINNISH URBAN LANDSCAPES (Topic):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monographic work or include as part of the new landscape characterization of Finland?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>10. LANDSCAPE SUSTAINABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES (Topic):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A holistic and Integrative approach</li> <li>• A link with the Finnish Strategy for Sustainable Development</li> </ul>		
<p><b>11. LANDSCAPE, PEOPLE, GOVERNANCE &amp; POLITICS (Topic):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A new role for the landscape in the decision-making process.</li> <li>• Participatory governance in landscape conservation</li> </ul>		
<p><b>12. LANDSCAPE SERVICES (Topic):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monographic work or include as part of the new landscape characterization of Finland?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>13. LANDSCAPE AND NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS (Topic):</b></p>		
<p><b>14. AN INTERNATIONAL PROJECT WITH OTHER LANDSCAPE OBSERVATORIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Topic to be defined jointly. Consider the topics listed above</li> <li>• Consider the possibility of working in the Nordic or Baltic environment (funding programmes...)</li> </ul>		

INTERNAL KEY WORKS/DECISIONS	IMPORTANCE	URGENCY
<p><b>1. THE NEW REGIONAL PLANNING SYSTEM IN FINLAND: CONTACT THE PEOPLE WORKING ON THIS ASAP</b></p>		
<p><b>2 A COMBINED ACTION + RESEARCH PLAN FOR THE OBSERVATORY:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A possible and necessary internal work at the Consortium</li> </ul>		
<p><b>3. THE LANDSCAPE OBSERVATORY OF FINLAND: PUBLICATIONS AND REPORTS?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do we want to create a collection of publication and documents of reference linked to the Finnish Landscape Observatory?</li> </ul>		
<p><b>4. COORDINATION WITH OTHER RELATED FINNISH STRATEGIES AND POLICIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategy for Cultural Environments, Sustainable Development, Climate Change, etc.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>5. ASSESSMENT OF LANDSCAPE RESEARCH IN FINLAND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult the report on Cultural Environments Research</li> <li>• Integrate as part of the definition of our ACTION+RESEARCH plan.</li> </ul>		



	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	SECTORAL ADMINISTRATION	PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE	RESEARCH & TEACHING
LANDSCAPE OBSERVATORY OF FINLAND				
Ministry of Environment (responsible of the ELC in Finland)				
Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry				
National Board of Antiquities				
National Traffic Agency				
SYKE				
LUKE				
Forestry Board				
MARK				
Society for Cultural Environment Studies				
University of Turku (Program Cultural Production and Landscape Studies)				
University of Turku (Landscape Geography)				
University of Jyväskylä (Department of Art and Culture Studies)				
University of Helsinki (Faculty of Geography, School of Environmental Sciences)				
Aalto University (				