

Research projects

Eight projects were selected from 21 proposals. The four axes of the 2010 call for proposals were very unequally covered by the selected projects. The "Landscape and participation" axis is the best-represented, accounting for half the projects. The other research projects chosen either show an interest in the issue of indicators to qualify landscape development processes, or a promising focus on the issue of the relationship between landscape and the economy, or the contribution of the landscape to understanding biodiversity.

Finally, the theme of "Climate change, landscape and energy policies" is unfortunately one that has remained somewhat neglected by the project, though it is of course an issue of considerable importance. This is regrettable but we hope this shortcoming will be made up for in the future.

The issue of shared landscapes

This research project proposes to question the perception of landscapes from the point of view of public policies and the inhabitants of an area. It therefore strives to understand what constitutes a landscape for the users of urban spaces, as well as how the notion of landscape influences urban policies, in particular in urban projects conducted in working-class suburban areas in France and the USA. The hypothesis is that the urban landscape can be a shared language promoting the construction of regional identities and the development of forms of appropriation and collective practices for inhabitants and users. The purpose is to study how the urban landscape can be a constitutive part of sustainable urban projects, and how it can stimulate the involvement of inhabitants.

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Dynamics of Landscape developments, participatory management and Perceptions of landscape in the Camargue (DEEP-CAM)

The purpose of this project is to provide the Camargue Regional Nature Park with decision-making support for the landscape policy in the Camargue, contribute to the creation of a landscape plan which the Park has committed to producing as part of the renewal of its status, shed light on the conditions and means for the participatory management of landscapes, and finally integrate the issue of the landscapes of Salins and Beauduc into the global management of the Camargue landscape.

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Landscape and Sustainable Development: the search for creative participation

This projects aims to explore the current and future challenges in the link between landscapes and sustainable development, through two areas of work: an assessment of participation projects in the field of landscape, and research into the emergence of creative participation. The aim is to call upon the imagination and creativity of citizens to propose solutions, as a new form of participation favourable to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (2000).

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Dynamics of landscape models in new towns; building sustainable landscapes

Urban and peri-urban landscapes provide information on the type of relationship between town and nature, town and history, town and society, and on underlying representations and concepts. At the crossroads of technical, social, cultural, natural and economic considerations, they also contain the mark of their era, the ideology, representations and uses which have moulded it. The challenges linked to sustainable development and the European Landscape Convention have resulted in changes to how these spaces develop and influence the way we act on them, in particular in the face of the issue of the sustainable management of these spaces and the involvement of local players (authorities, inhabitants and technicians) in building and managing their area.

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Citizen participation and renewal of landscape practices. Action research through experimentation and the comparison of methods

The purpose of this project is to question and test participation in the landscape through two action research projects in the areas of Villandry and Lignières de Touraine in the Indre-et-Loire, France, holding seminars bringing together researchers and landscapers to answer the following question: "Does participation renew landscape practices, and more specifically the landscape project? If so, how?"

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Landscape and urban sprawl: physical and cultural dynamics and modelling (PAYTAL)

This project studies the links between urban sprawl and landscape changes. The purpose is to provide a tool to interpret landscapes and link it to forms of urban sprawl. This exercise will not only enable more in-depth information to be collected on landscapes than in classic taxonomies, but will also make it possible to infer new knowledge.

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Peri-urban Fringe Landscapes - Representations, Indicators, Tools (PFP-RIO)

This project aims to mitigate the lack of knowledge on the ordinary landscapes of urban fringes, more specifically in a considerable effort to produce formal results resulting in the proposal of descriptors and indicators to assess how these landscapes and their dynamics are defined. The aim is also to shed light on the potential methods of implementing land-use planning, management and protection in these areas, and sustainable development policies more generally, to try and promote citizen involvement.

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Landscape dynamics and perception of tree-lined interfaces: what challenges for the implementation of the Trame Verte et Bleue (blue and green corridors)? (INTERFACE)

By broaching the subject of blue and green corridors - in particular trees outside forests - as spaces for multiple interactions, this project highlights the role of participants, as well as the diversity of perceptions and discourse. Through the example of trees outside forests, this project shall analyse how local participants appropriate directives relating to blue and green corridors in terms of biodiversity and landscape, or try to use them to their own advantage for land-use planning or sustainable development.

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Organisation

ORIENTATION COMMITTEE

In collaboration with the Scientific Council, the Orientation Committee defines the orientations of the programme and validates the texts calling for research proposals from the scientific community, selects research projects on the basis of their relevance to public policies following the assessment and classification of proposals by the Scientific Council, and proposes the organisation of activities to support, assess and further develop research results.

Chaired by the Head of the Research Department of the French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, it is comprised of representatives from the various departments concerned, and their local agencies, as well as the Ministries of Agriculture, Research, Culture and Communication, French government agencies and offices (ONF - National Forestry Office, etc.), several associations (CAUE - Council for Architecture, Urban Planning and the Environment; the French Federation of Regional Nature Parks [FNPR], Paysagistes Conseils de l'État, etc.), representatives from local authorities (City of Paris) and the Chairman of the Scientific Council.

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

The Scientific Council provides support for the Orientation Committee. In this capacity:

- it translates the orientations defined by the committee into scientific terms and proposes texts to call for research proposals from the scientific community;
- it assesses the research projects, classifying them on the basis of their scientific excellence and their relevance;
- it proposes activities to coordinate, assess and disseminate research results.

Chaired by Yves Luginbühl (LADYSS-CNRS, Paris, France), the Council members are as follows: Marc Antrop (Ghent University, Belgium), Serge Briffaud (ensapBx, Bordeaux, France), Marianne Cohen (LADYSS-CNRS, Paris, France), Christian Dautel (Ecole Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Angers, France), Josefina Gomez-Mendoza (Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain), Philippe Guttinger (Université de Paris X, Nanterre, France), Peter Howard (Landscape Research Group, United Kingdom), Yves Michelin (ENITA, Clermont-Ferrand, France), Raffaele Milani (University of Bologna, Italy), Bas Pedroli (ALTERRA, the Netherlands), Jean-Michel Salles (INRA, Montpellier, France), Monique Toublanc (ENSP, Versailles, France), Chris Younes (ENSA la Villette, Paris, France).

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Research programme 2010-2014



LANDSCAPE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy



Foreword

The landscape forms part of a shared language: we all speak of the landscape in terms of our personal history, culture, and point of view. These may be the landscapes of our childhood, the daily landscapes of the areas where we live or work, the landscapes that pass us by while on the move, or the landscapes we experience on our travels and holidays, etc.

Whether exceptional, in the sense of UNESCO's World Heritage Sites, or "ordinary" – rural, mountain, forest and coastal landscapes or more built-up areas (dense cities, peri-urban areas, areas of economic activity) – landscapes form an extremely varied and clearly differentiated reality.



development policies. It emphasises the economic aspect of the services provided through the use of landscapes. It should also allow full-scale finalised research to be embarked upon in the field, in particular the assessment of innovative landscape management methods or of the balance between landscape management and measures to promote environmental objectives (biodiversity, quality of life and social representation) or governance objectives (participation, etc.). It also devotes considerable attention to the urban dimension, in particular peri-urban areas.

Landscape and sustainable development

The continuation of landscape research, supported by the French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy, could only lead to more in-depth understanding of the relationship between landscapes and sustainable development. The three pillars of sustainable development – development, the reproduction of natural resources and social equality – require the contribution of the landscape to the issue of sustainability to be defined further, and for research to tackle the physical transformation of landscapes and ways of thinking about natural resources and their equitable redistribution within a development process. In fact, the very notion of development and the relevance of questions of scale (local or global) must be re-examined, and we must also continue to study the economic dimension of landscape, which has not yet been fully explored, despite the progress made by the previous programme.

This other definition of resources is linked to the idea of a social resource, which is taken into consideration in land-use planning, although it could really be seen as a way of generating greater well-being. The importance of research focussed on citizen involvement is thrown into even greater relief within this context.

Has sustainable development reversed the trend of considering the landscape as a collective construction able to drive societies towards the development of participatory procedures for more effective democratic expression, as the European Landscape Convention suggests?

The contribution of the landscape to sustainable development, and vice-versa, therefore requires the theoretical and methodological progress made by landscape research programmes to continue.



Scientific coordination

Scientific coordination includes events organised at programme scale, and more targeted ones organised within the framework of the different projects.

The aim of programme seminars is to structure the scientific community mobilised around this issue. A kick-off seminar, whose aim was to improve mutual awareness between the project participants and programme coordinators, was held in Tours from 29th to 30th March 2012. A midstream seminar will be held in May 2013, with the objective of analysing how research in progress can shed light on public decision-making and measures to be taken to promote communication between the scientists involved and the stakeholders.

PDD2 will also co-organise, along with the University of Bologna, a seminar on "The role of open spaces in the transformation of urban landscape", which will be held in Berlin from 12th to 14th March 2013, where several PDD2 research projects will be presented. A final seminar scheduled for 2014 will contribute to the dissemination of the results of the research programme.

Orientations of the research programme

A call for research proposals launched in 2010 is mainly founded on the results of previous programmes and observations resulting from the implementation of landscape policies.

The first axis of the programme aims to specify landscape development processes (axis 1), which are still not clearly defined and are difficult to understand due to the diversity of scales involved; the role of indicators and social representations of landscapes in these dynamics should be the subject of further conceptual and methodological work.

The second axis concerns the economic approach (axis 2), already broached in the previous programme, but insufficiently developed: faced with the restrictions of the classic economic approach and the frequent criticisms of monetarisation, an approach which considers the landscape as the product of an economy is required, analysing the services which landscapes provide to society, and the ways in which to measure or assess their contribution to social well-being.

The contradictions between energy policies and landscape policies (axis 3) cannot fail to be noted. Within the context of climate change, we have to analyse the interaction between the various scales of policies and planetary challenges, explore ways to save energy at national level and better understand energy and landscape policy.

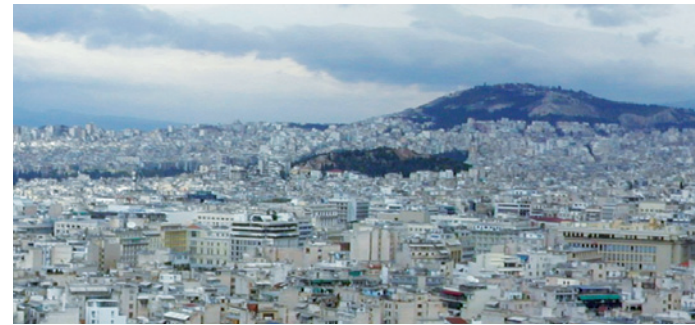
Finally, the development of participatory projects (axis 4) requires the analysis of their capacity to confront globalisation at local level, the role of the diversity of meanings of the word landscape, the contradictions between scientific and professional approaches, the involvement of the public and assessment of forms of participation, ranging from information and consultation to mediation.

Sustainable Development has become increasingly important topic over the past few years in the world of politics and the media, broadening the concept of the environment to social and economic considerations.

The convergence of Landscape and Sustainable Development would seem to be a logical conclusion: the two notions both aim to express a global vision of the environment, over the long term. But is it really so clear-cut?

The "Landscape and sustainable development" (PDD - Paysage et développement durable) research programme invites researchers to study the relationship and interactions between these two complex ideas from a scientific standpoint, while integrating the main focuses of the European Landscape Convention, which entered into force in France on 1st July 2006.

This programme is a logical continuation of the previous programmes (Landscapes and Public Policies and the first PDD programme from 2005) whose purpose was to shed light on public decision-making policy. It is particularly focused on the sustainability of landscape



This purpose of this brochure is to present the issues that underlie the programme, its orientations and the measures taken to implement it. It also aims to make the sources of expertise used by the programme available to all – government agencies, elected officials, scientists, users and citizens – by presenting the eight research projects selected along with the contact details of their coordinators. It describes the expected outcomes, whether they be the issues addressed at seminars held within the framework of the programme or research results that will be published in 2014.

