



Distinction between GIAHS and UNESCO's Cultural Landscapes category (GIAHS/STSC/15/3 add.1)

Introduction

At the global scale, there are several international organizations working on heritage protection. The UNESCO World Heritage Convention, which signed in 1972, is to conserve world's cultural and natural properties. After more than 40 years of operation and experience, 1031 properties and 31 transboundary in 163 countries are inscribed in the World Heritage List (UNESCO, 2015). Originated in a similar era to World Heritage Sites, UNESCO launched a Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme in 1971. As of today, the Programme operates in 651 biosphere reserves in 120 countries all over the world with the objective of promoting research, education, and communication in the field of ecosystem conservation and the rational use of natural resources (UNESCO, 2015).

The Convention on Biological Diversity¹, which adopted in 1992, is a turning point of the development of natural heritage conservation. A major innovation of the convention is its recognition that traditional knowledge, practices and cultural systems of indigenous people and local communities are relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (United Nations, 1992). As a result, World Heritage Sites was at it beginning to shift from concentrating on monuments and sites of great works of art in ancient history to include people.

What has emerged also is the recognition of the 1992 World Heritage Cultural Landscapes category, which emphasizes the importance of human efforts on the protection of heritage site. MAB Programme was adapted to the convention in the same way by putting one of their key objectives as the enhancement of relationships between people and their environment. Ten years later, in 2002, FAO started an initiative for the dynamic conservation of Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS) to safeguard and support the world's agri-cultural heritage systems. At present, 32 unique agricultural systems, which have been created and maintained by generations of farmers and herders based on diverse natural resources and locally adapted management practices, are designated as GIAHS sites (GIAHS, 2015).

The designations within these various international programmes are not exclusive. For instance, in 65 locations in 42 countries, World Heritage Sites and MAB overlap (Price, Park & Bouamrane, 2010). To date, 88 properties with 4 transboundary properties (1 delisted property) on the World Heritage List have been included as cultural landscapes (UNESCO, 2015). UNESCO World Heritage Centre (2013) indicates that nearly 75 per cent of cultural landscapes have some agricultural or pastoral features, even though they

¹ The Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) defines biological diversity as: "The Variability among living organisms from all sources, including inter alia terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems".

may not be the main reason for the inscription. If considered World Heritage sites as a whole, 13 per cent are properties that have agricultural and/or pastoral characteristics.

Definition, criteria and categories of World Heritage Cultural Landscapes

Background

1. Under the scheme of World Heritage site inscription (designation), there is a special classification which is named as “Cultural landscape”. This is one specific type of “cultural heritage” which has been formed as a result of combined work of man and nature. Many agricultural producing areas have been designated as cultural landscape. GIAHS Secretariat made the **Table 1** based on the list made by Professor Qingwen Min and Professor Lu He² which was updated and added the summary of description on each site edited by the Secretariat.

There are a number of agricultural landscapes ranging from the Tobacco landscape of Vinales Valley in Cuba, the Rice Terraces of the Philippines Cordilleras or the Puzta pastoral landscape of Hortobagy National Park in Hungary, that have remarkable continuity since their techniques has been in use in the region for many years, virtually unchanged.

2. This paper attempts comparison between GIAHS and Cultural Landscape in terms of several aspects including definition, target for designation and objective to provide a basis for consideration on whether there is any need and room for GIAHS to make distinction from the cultural heritage.

Definition and Categories

3. Article 1 of the World Heritage Convention (1972) defines “cultural heritage” as follows and the most relevant definition to cultural landscape would be the third definition as is underlined.

Article 1

For the purpose of this Convention, the following shall be considered as "**cultural heritage**":

monuments: architectural works, works of monumental sculpture and painting, elements or structures of an archaeological nature, inscriptions, cave dwellings and combinations of features, which are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

² Hong, S.K., Bogaert, J. & Min, Q. (2014). Biocultural Landscapes: Diversity, Functions and Values. Springer Dordrecht Heidelberg New York London. Retrieved from: https://books.google.it/books?id=tv8sBAAAQBAJ&pg=PA10&lpg=PA10&dq=world+heritage+cultural+landscape+and+GIAHS&source=bl&ots=yA0FHj_LAb&sig=q_Ej7JtI_uTYVQxpcC8dcQXRp8&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CGAQ6AEwCW0VChMI2_ih26y1yAIVgqlyCh2NNQeO#v=onepage&q=world%20heritage%20cultural%20landscape%20and%20GIAHS&f=false

As is indicated in Table 1, Professor Qingwen Min and professor Lu He researched and collected sites that are recognized as cultural landscapes for its distinctive agricultural system in 2014. They classified the sites into 6 types, which include vineyard, food crop or cash crop, pastoral, archaeological landscape, aesthetic landscape created by agricultural practices and rural construction.

groups of buildings: groups of separate or connected buildings which, because of their architecture, their homogeneity or their place in the landscape, are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science;

sites: works of man or the combined works of nature and man, and areas including archaeological sites which are of outstanding universal value from the historical, aesthetic, ethnological or anthropological point of view.

4. “Cultural landscapes” is defined in paragraph 6 to 9 of Annex 3 of the “**Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention**” which is an important document to describe governance and procedures from application to final inscription of sites. The underlined parts seem to have relevance to agriculture and GIAHS.

6. Cultural landscapes are cultural properties and represent the "combined works of nature and of man" designated in Article 1 of the Convention. They are illustrative of the evolution of human society and settlement over time, under the influence of the physical constraints and/or opportunities presented by their natural environment and of successive social, economic and cultural forces, both external and internal.

7. They should be selected on the basis both of their Outstanding Universal Value and of their representativity in terms of a clearly defined geo-cultural region and also for their capacity to illustrate the essential and distinct cultural elements of such regions.

8. The term "cultural landscape" embraces a diversity of manifestations of the interaction between humankind and its natural environment.

9. Cultural landscapes often reflect specific techniques of sustainable land use, considering the characteristics and limits of the natural environment they are established in, and a specific spiritual relation to nature. Protection of cultural landscapes can contribute to modern techniques of sustainable land use and can maintain or enhance natural values in the landscape. The continued existence of traditional forms of land use supports biological diversity in many regions of the world. The protection of traditional cultural landscapes is therefore helpful in maintaining biological diversity.

5. Furthermore, there are categories of cultural landscapes which are also listed in the “Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention” as follows. The underlined parts seem to have relevance to agriculture and GIAHS.

10. Cultural landscapes fall into three main categories, namely:

(i) The most easily identifiable is the clearly defined landscape 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.

(ii) The second category is the organically evolved landscape. This results from an initial social, economic, administrative, and/or religious imperative and has developed its present form by association with and in response to its natural environment. Such landscapes reflect that process of evolution in their form and component features. They fall into two sub categories:

- a relict (or fossil) landscape is one in which an evolutionary process came to an end at some time in the past, either abruptly or over a period. Its significant distinguishing features are, however, still visible in material form.

- a continuing landscape is one which retains an active social role in contemporary society closely associated with the traditional way of life, and in which the evolutionary process is still in progress. At the same time it exhibits significant material evidence of its evolution over time.

(iii) The final category is the associative cultural landscape. The inscription of such landscapes on the World Heritage List is justifiable by virtue of the powerful religious, artistic or cultural associations of the natural element rather than material cultural evidence, which may be insignificant or even absent.

Criteria

6. Since cultural landscapes is a special version of the cultural heritage, the criteria used for cultural landscape are the same as the other general cultural heritage. The very fundamental requirement is Outstanding Universal Value (OUV). Regarding the criteria for the assessment of OUV, according to the observation in the Table 1, the top third most frequently used criteria are the following.

(iii) to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;

(iv) to be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage (s) in human history; and

(v) to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change.

It could be found that all these criteria consider human activity, but each from a different perspective. In fact, most agricultural landscapes submitted for World Heritage recognition are analyzed against criterion (v), followed by (iv) and further by (iii).

7. With respect to the criteria, world heritage criteria is quite abstract and broad while five selection criteria of GIAHS is more specific.

Objective

8. The objective of cultural landscape is the same with the other world heritage categories, namely, “*the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage*” which is stipulated in the world heritage Convention as a responsibility of member countries as follows.

Article 4

Each State Party to this Convention recognizes that the duty of ensuring the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of the cultural and natural heritage referred to in Articles 1 and 2 and situated on its territory, belongs primarily to that State. It will do all it can to this end, to the utmost of its own resources and, where appropriate, with any international assistance and co-operation, in particular, financial, artistic, scientific and technical, which it may be able to obtain.

9. On the other hand, GIAHS objective is not only to conserve the site but also to aim at development of agriculture as well as rural economy whose concrete ideas and tools are introduced in several places as underlined below³.

The Goal

The overall goal of the global initiative is to identify and safeguard Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems and their associated landscapes, agricultural biodiversity and knowledge systems through catalyzing and establishing a long-term programme to support such systems and enhance global, national and local benefits derived through their dynamic conservation, sustainable management and enhanced viability.

The Objectives

To achieve this goal, the main objectives are:

1. To leverage global and national recognition of the importance of agricultural heritage systems and institutional support for their safeguard;
 - global recognition is obtained through the creation of the Agricultural Heritage Systems categories supported by governments, FAO governing bodies, UNESCO, World Heritage Centre and other partners;
 - national recognition and awareness is raised by improving understanding of the threats that such agricultural systems face, of their global importance and of the benefits that they provide at all levels.
2. Capacity building of local farming communities and local and national institutions to conserve and manage GIAHS, generate income and add economic value to goods and services of such systems in a sustainable fashion;
 - identify ways to mitigate risks of erosion of biodiversity and traditional knowledge, land degradation and threats posed by globalization processes, and skewed policies and incentives;
 - strengthen conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and natural resources, reducing vulnerability to climate change, enhancing sustainable agriculture and rural development and as a result contributing to food security and poverty alleviation;
 - enhancing the benefits derived by local populations from conservation and sustainable use of their resources and their ingenious systems and rewarding them through the payment for Environmental Services, Eco-labeling, Eco-tourism and other incentive mechanisms and market opportunities.
3. To promote enabling regulatory policies and incentive environments to support the conservation, evolutionary adaptation and viability of GIAHS;
 - assessment of existing policies and incentive mechanisms, and identification of modalities to provide support for sustainable agricultural practices;
 - promotion of national and international processes leading to improved policies and incentive mechanisms

³ <http://www.fao.org/giahs/giahs-initiative/goal-and-objectives/pt/>

10. This idea to promote sustainable agriculture development and economic development in the designated GIAHS sites as well as to improve the livelihood of the farmers in the communities can be found in the concept of “dynamic conservation⁴”.

The dynamic conservation approach, based on the Sustainable Livelihood Framework and agro-ecological approaches, explores and develops novel political, social and economic incentives thereby strengthening family farming management systems in order to conserve the biodiversity and cultural values of the ecosystem. It emphasizes a balance between conservation, adaptation and socioeconomic development in order to assist the people who are the creators and guardians of their agricultural heritage system to address the challenges of today’s world and allow them to take advantage of the opportunities of modern living, while conserving the functionalities of the ecosystem.

11. Moreover, GIAHS has its target beneficiaries described as follows⁵.

Major target beneficiaries are family farmers, small holder farmers, indigenous peoples and tribal communities. Special emphasis will be placed on the specific roles of women including youth as custodians and beneficiaries of biodiversity and as protagonists of household food security.

12. Finally GIAHS also has another aim to disseminate successful experiences and lessons learned in the GIAHS sites to other areas.

e) disseminating key best practices and lessons among implementing agencies, recipient communities and countries in order to enhance and sustain the overall impact: locally, regionally and on a global scale.

Conclusion

13. Quick review of the definition, category and objectives of cultural landscape under the world heritage in comparison with those of GIAHS could lead to a preliminary conclusion that GIAHS sites and agricultural area designated as cultural heritage shares many similar characteristics in the following manner.

(i) Cultural Heritage can cover agricultural production areas whose specific features are formed through a many years’ interaction by local farmers with the natural environment under the influence of the physical constraints and/or opportunities presented by the environment. This has high similarity with GIAHS sites.

(ii) Cultural Heritage concept embraces sustainable land use with remarkable local technologies, and aims at conservation of biodiversity and sustainable production.

14. On the other hand, there seems to be no clear requirement in Cultural Landscape that agriculture in the inscribed site should contribute to achieving food security and livelihood of the local farmers. Furthermore, the most significant difference can be identified in the objectives of the two activities. While both GIAHS and Cultural Heritage are aimed at conservation of their sites, GIAHS is also expected to play a role in pursuing agricultural, social and economic development in rural areas, improvement in livelihood/welfare of local farmers and communities, while maintaining the core elements of the GIAHS. GIAHS is also expected

⁴ Paragraph 13, COAG/2014/12

⁵ <http://www.fao.org/giahs/giahs-initiative/target-beneficiaries/pt/>

to disseminate its ingenious technologies, practices of agriculture and natural resource management to other areas as well as other countries where applicable.

15. The development concept is already encompassed in “dynamic conservation” but is not necessarily described in a streamlined manner. The idea appears in various documents separately. Therefore, whole of these objectives of GIAHS which aims at social, economic development, pursue improvement of livelihood in rural communities and disseminate its excellent agricultural practices to other areas should be consolidated and clearly presented in more streamlined and systematic way in the main GIAHS documents and GIAHS homepage. This point could be the major distinction of GIAHS from UNESCO Cultural Heritage and also provide strong rationale for FAO to host GIAHS. On the other hand, most significant difference can be identified in the objectives of the two activities. While both GIAHS and Cultural Heritage are aimed at conservation of their sites, GIAHS is also expected to play a role in pursuing sustainable agricultural development, social and economic development in rural areas, and livelihood/welfare improvement of local farmers and communities while maintaining the core elements of the GIAHS.

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Table 1: Agro-cultural Landscapes in the Cultural Landscape List

Type	Name	Country	Inscription time	Criterion ⁱ	Description
Vineyard	Wachau cultural landscape	Austria	2000	(ii) & (iii)	Preservation of evolution since prehistoric times: Architecture, (monasteries, castles, ruins), urban design, (towns and villages), and agricultural use, principally for the cultivation of vines.
	Alto Douro Wine Region	Portugal	2011	(iii)& (iv) &(v)	This Region has been producing wine for nearly two thousand years and its landscape has been moulded by human activities. The components of the Alto Douro landscape are representative of the full range of activities association with winemaking – terraces, quintas (wine-producing farm complexes), villages, chapels, and roads.
	Landscape of the Pico Island vineyard culture	Portugal	2004	(iii)&(v)	The site is an outstanding example of the adaptation of farming practices to a remote and challenging environment. The island contains spectacular evidence of grape-growing and wine-making (viniculture), with an imposing pattern of orderly, long, linear walls running inland from, and parallel to, the rocky coastline around its northern and western edges.
	Tokaj Wine Region historic cultural landscape	Hungary	2002	(iii)&(v)	The site demonstrates the long tradition of wine production in this region of low hills and river valleys. The intricate pattern of vineyards, farms, villages and small towns, with their historic networks of deep wine cellars, illustrates every facet of the production of the famous Tokaj wines.
	Jurisdiction of Saint-Emilion	France	1999	(ii) & (iv)	The Jurisdiction of Saint-Emilion is an outstanding example of an historic vineyard landscape that has survived intact and in activity to the present day.
	Upper Middle Rhine Valley	Germany	2002	(ii)&(iv)&(v)	The 65km-stretch of the Middle Rhine Valley, with its castles, historic towns and vineyards, graphically illustrates the long history of human involvement with a dramatic and varied natural landscape.

	Lavaux, vineyard terraces	Switzerland	2007	(iii)&(iv)&(v)	It is an outstanding example of a centuries-long interaction between people and their environment, developed to optimize local resources so as to produce a highly valued wine that has always been important to the economy.
	Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe-Roero and Monferrato	Italy	2014	(iii)&(v)	Following a long and slow evolution of winegrowing expertise, the best possible adaptation of grape varieties to land with specific soil and climatic components has been carried out, which in itself is related to winemaking expertise, thereby becoming an international benchmark.
Food crop or cash crop	Rice terraces of the Philippine cordilleras	Philippines	1995	(iii)&(iv)&(v)	The rice terraces are an outstanding example of land-use that resulted from a harmonious interaction between people and its environment which has produced a steep terraced landscape of great aesthetic beauty, now vulnerable to social and economic changes.
	Cultural landscape of Bali Province: the Subak system as a manifestation of the Tri Hita Karana philosophy	Indonesia	2012	(ii)&(iii)&(v)&(vi)	The site consists of five rice terraces and their water temples that cover 19,500 ha. The temples are the focus of a cooperative water management system of canals and weirs, known as subak, which reflects the philosophical concept of Tri Hita Karana to bring together the realms of the spirit, the human world and nature. The subak system of democratic and egalitarian farming practices has enabled the Balinese to become the most prolific rice growers in the archipelago.
	Viñuales Valley	Cuba	1999	(iii)	The Viñales valley is encircled by mountains and its landscape is interspersed with dramatic rocky outcrops. Traditional techniques are still in use for agricultural production, particularly of tobacco.
	Agave landscape and ancient industrial facilities of Tequila	Mexico	2006	(ii)&(iv)&(v)&(vi)	The agave landscape exemplified the continuous link between ancient Mesoamerican culture of the agave and today, as well as the contours process of cultivation since the 17th century when large scale plantations were created and distilleries first started production of tequila.
	Coffee cultural landscape of Colombia	Colombia	2011	(iii)&(v)	The site reflects a centennial tradition of coffee growing in small plots in the high forest and the way farmers have adapted cultivation to difficult mountain conditions.
	Cultural Landscapes of Honghe Hani Rice Terraces	China	2013	(iv)	Creation of water management system to bring water from the forested mountaintops to the terraces; creation of integrated

					farming system that involves buffalos, cattle, ducks, fish and eel and supports the production of red rice, the area's primary crop.
	Ancient Villages of Northern Syria	Syrian Arab Republic	2011	(iii)& (iv) &(v)	The Ancient Villages of Northern Syria and their relict landscapes provide an eminent example of a sustainable rural settlement from the 1st to the 7th centuries, based on the careful use of the soil, water and limestone, and the mastery of production of valuable agricultural crops. The economic functionality of the habitat, hydraulic engineering, low protective walls and the Roman agricultural plot plan inscribed on the relict landscapes are testimony to this.
	Cultural Landscape of the Serra de Tramuntana	Spain	2011	(iii)& (iv) &(v)	The cultural landscape of the Serra de Tramuntana represents a spectacular, peculiar example of a terraced farmed landscape which combines an interconnected and highly specialised system of waterworks for collecting and storing water, featuring qanats, that are underground channels to harvest and transport water, canals, ditches, storage basins, with a system of terraces supported by dry-stone walls so as to make possible the cultivation of vegetables as well as fruit and olive trees in the terraced plots and including a sophisticated drainage system to avoid soil erosion.
Pastoral	Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley	Andorra	2004	(iv)	Landscapes of craggy cliffs and glaciers, with high open pastures and steep wooded valleys; long-history of pastoralism; the site features houses, notably summer settlements, terraced fields, stone tracks and evidence of iron smelting.
	Hortobagy National Park – the Puszta	Hungary	1999	(iv) &(v)	The cultural landscape of the Hortobágy Puszta consists of a vast area of plains and wetlands in eastern Hungary. Traditional forms of land use, such as the grazing of domestic animals, have been present in this pastoral society for more than two millennia.
	Richtersveld cultural and botanical landscape	South Africa	2007	(iv) &(v)	The Richtersveld is one of the few areas in southern Africa where transhumance pastoralism is still practised; as a cultural landscape it reflects long-standing and persistent traditions of the Nama, the indigenous community. Their seasonal pastoral grazing regimes, which sustain the extensive bio-diversity of the area, were once much more widespread and are now vulnerable.
	The Causses and the Cevennes, Mediterranean agro-	France	2011	(iii) &(v)	The site manifests an outstanding example of one type of Mediterranean agro-pastoralism. This cultural tradition, based on distinctive social structures and local breeds of sheep, is reflected

	pastoral cultural landscape				in the structure of the landscape, especially the patterns of farms, settlements, fields, water management, drailles and open grazed common land.
	Pyrénées - Mont Perdu	France & Spain	1997	(iii)& (iv) &(v)&(vi)&(vii)	The site is a pastoral landscape reflecting an agricultural way of life that was once widespread in the upland regions of Europe but now survives only in this part of the Pyrénées. Thus, it provides exceptional insights into past European society through its landscape of villages, farms, fields, upland pastures and mountain roads.
Archaeological landscape	Ecosystem and relict cultural landscape of Lope-Okanda	Gabon	2007	(iii)&(iv) &(ix)&(x)	The site represents an unusual interface between dense and well conserved tropical rainforest and relict savannah environments. A greater number of threatened species of large mammals find their last refuge in Lopé-Okanda. The diversity of habitats and the complex relationship between forest and savannah ecosystems have contributed to a high biological diversity particularly in relation to the property's flora.
	St Kilda	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1986	(iii)&(v)&(vi) &(ix)&(x)	The cultural landscape of St Kilda is an outstanding example of land use resulting from a type of subsistence economy based on the products of birds, cultivating land and keeping sheep. The cultural landscape reflects age-old traditions and land uses, which have become vulnerable to change particularly after the departure of the islanders.
	Archaeological landscape of the first coffee plantations in the south-east of Cuba	Cuba	2000	(ii)&(iv)	The site shows architectural and archaeological material evidence of 171 old coffee plantations, and the infrastructure for irrigation and water management, and the transportation network of mountain roads and bridges connecting the plantations internally and with coffee export points.
	Kuk early agricultural site	Papua New Guinea	2008	(iii)&(iv)	The Kuk Early Agricultural Site, a well-preserved buried archaeological testimony, demonstrates an independent technological leap which transformed plant exploitation to agriculture around 7,000-6,400 years ago, based on vegetative propagation of bananas, taro and yam.
Aesthetic landscape created	Val d' Orcia	Italy	2004	(iv)&(vi)	The landscape of Val d'Orcia is part of the agricultural hinterland of Siena. The landscape exemplifies the beauty of well-managed Renaissance agricultural landscapes. The inscription covers: an

by agricultural practices					agrarian and pastoral landscape reflecting innovative land-management systems; towns and villages; farmhouses; and the Roman Via Francigena and its associated abbeys, inns, shrines, bridges, etc.
	Costiera Amalfitana	Italy	1997	(ii)&(iv)&(v)	The Amalfi coast is an area of great physical beauty and natural diversity. The rural areas show the versatility of the inhabitants in adapting their use of the land to the diverse nature of the terrain, which ranges from terraced vineyards and orchards on the lower slopes to wide upland pastures.
	Agricultural landscape of Southern Öland	Sweden	2000	(iv)&(v)	The landscape of Southern Öland takes its contemporary form from its long cultural history, adapting to the physical constraints of the geology and topography. It is an outstanding example of human settlement, making the optimum use of diverse landscape types on a single island.
	Palestine: Land of Olives and Vines – Cultural Landscape of Southern Jerusalem, Battir	Palestine	2014	(iv)&(v)	The strategic location of Battir and the availability of springs were two major factors that attracted people to settle in the area and adapt its steep landscape into arable land. The property is an outstanding example of traditional land-use, which is representative of many centuries of culture and human interaction with the environment. The agricultural practices that were used to create this living landscape reflect one of the oldest farming methods known to humankind and are an important source of livelihood for local communities.
	Bassari Country: Bassari, Fula and Bedik Cultural Landscapes	Senegal	2012	(iii)&(v)&(vi)	The Bassari cultural landscape bears witness to peculiar uses of the land, including crop rotation and manuring, communal sowing, weeding and harvesting and commuting practices imposed by traditional agricultural systems and by the relative scarcity of resources, thus representing an outstanding example of human interaction with a vulnerable environment.
	Vegaøyane -- The Vega Archipelago	Norway	2004	(v)	The islands bear testimony to a distinctive frugal way of life based on fishing and the harvesting of the down of eider ducks, in an inhospitable environment. There are fishing villages, quays, warehouses, eider houses (built for eider ducks to nest in), farming landscapes, lighthouses and beacons. There is evidence of human settlement from the Stone Age onwards. By the 9th century, the islands had become an important centre for the supply of down,

					which appears to have accounted for around a third of the islanders' income. The Vega Archipelago reflects the way fishermen/farmers have, over the past 1,500 years, maintained a sustainable living and the contribution of women to eiderdown harvesting.
	Landscape of Grand Pré	Canada	2012	(v)&(vi)	Grand Pré forms a vast area of polders or marshlands, in which the land division and crop farming methods have continued for three centuries. It is the most important example of its type in North America. The hydraulic system is based on an exemplary ensemble of dykes, aboiteaux to evacuate the water, and a drainage network. These techniques and community-based management have continued through to today.
	Incense Route - Desert Cities in the Negev	Israel	2005	(iii)&(v)	The Incense Route was a network of trade routes extending over two thousand kilometres to facilitate the transport of frankincense and myrrh from the Yemen and Oman in the Arabian Peninsula to the Mediterranean. The four Nabatean towns of Haluza, Mamshit, Avdat and Shivta, with their associated fortresses and agricultural landscapes linking them to the Mediterranean are situated on a segment of this route, in the Negev Desert, in southern Israel. The towns were supported by extremely sophisticated systems of water collection and irrigation that allowed large-scale agriculture. These included dams, channelling, cisterns and reservoirs. Evidence of all these features is widespread around Avdat and central Negev, as are the remains of ancient field systems strung along riverbeds and hill slopes.

Sources:

1. Hong, Sk., Bogaert, J. & Min, Q. (2014). Biocultural Landscapes: Diversity, Functions and Values, p. 11. Retrieved from: https://books.google.it/books?id=tv8sBAAAQBAJ&pg=PA10&lpg=PA10&dq=world+heritage+cultural+landscape+and+GIAHS&source=bl&ots=yA0FHj_LAb&sig=q_Ej7JtI_uTYVQxcpC8dcQXRp8&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0CGAQ6AEwCWoVChMI2_ih26y1yAIVgqlyCh2NNQeO#v=onepage&q&f=false
2. Cultural Landscape - UNESCO official website (2015). Retrieved from: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/culturallandscape/>

ⁱ Selection criteria

- (i) to represent a masterpiece of human creative genius;
- (ii) to exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design;
- (iii) to bear a unique or at least exceptional testimony to a cultural tradition or to a civilization which is living or which has disappeared;
- (iv) to be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history;
- (v) to be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change;
- (vi) to be directly or tangibly associated with events or living traditions, with ideas, or with beliefs, with artistic and literary works of outstanding universal significance. (The Committee considers that this criterion should preferably be used in conjunction with other criteria);
- (vii) to contain superlative natural phenomena or areas of exceptional natural beauty and aesthetic importance;
- (viii) to be outstanding examples representing major stages of earth's history, including the record of life, significant on-going geological processes in the development of landforms, or significant geomorphic or physiographic features;
- (ix) to be outstanding examples representing significant on-going ecological and biological processes in the evolution and development of terrestrial, fresh water, coastal and marine ecosystems and communities of plants and animals;
- (x) to contain the most important and significant natural habitats for in-situ conservation of biological diversity, including those containing threatened species of outstanding universal value from the point of view of science or conservation.