



LAHEMAA

NATIONAL PARK

45

International conference

**Local communities,
cultural landscapes and heritage**

6-8th of October 2016

LAHEMAA NATIONAL PARK – CULTURAL HERITAGE AND COMMUNITIES

The Lahemaa National Park was founded in 1971 as the first national park in the Soviet Union (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics – USSR) and at the time embodied the idea of Estonianness disguised by combination of united nature and heritage protection. The main arguments brought forward while creating national parks have been “untouched” nature or presence of landscapes of outstanding cultural value.

Since establishment, Lahemaa National Park has been a fascinating and inspiring place for those keen on nature and cultural heritage. Lahemaa has given rise to many trends common in modern-day nature protection, for instance, large-scale protection of forests, coexistence of nature protection and human activities, systematic introduction of nature, internal and international networking, the holistic conception of the protection of cultural heritage, the practices of empowerment of local communities, inventories of cultural heritage and a land-cover database for management.

The conference presentations and roundtable discussions will cover a wide spectrum of topics, and introduce many inspiring questions that will get answers. During the conference protection policies that have been used in Lahemaa National Park in recent decades and in other protected areas world-wide will be explored. Several questions will be discussed, for instance: how to define heritage values and communicate them between experts, locals, public interest and other interested parties? what can we benefit from communities and what can people benefit from being socially connected? is the concept of sustainable landscapes a utopian goal? is a person's identity related to place? what is the role of heritage, as it is no longer your own story? how to establish a “diplomatic mission” between the experts and locals in protecting the built heritage? how to support maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services provided by grasslands, through encouraging ecosystems based on planning and economically viable grassland management?

Wishing you all a creative conference and the best in your conservation work in coming years!

Kalev Sepp



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD



ESTONIAN
ACADEMY OF ARTS



LIFE
Viva
Grass



CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

THURSDAY, 6TH OF OCTOBER 2016

Location: Conference Hall of Palmse Manor

Moderators: Artur Talvik (Parliament of Estonia, Tapurla village), Siim Raie (Heritage Board) & Riin Alatalu (ICOMOS Estonia)

10.00 Welcome speeches

Prof Kalev Sepp, Estonian University of Life Sciences

Mr Andres Onemar, Director General of Environmental Board

Mr Siim Raie, Director General of Heritage Board

Keynote speakers

Dr Riin Alatalu, ICOMOS Estonia. *Protection of World and Local heritages*

Dr Peter Bille Larsen, IUCN, Luzern University. *Community-based heritage protection*

Mrs Ave Paulus, Environmental Board of Estonia. *A holistic approach to cultural heritage protection - Lahemaa NP 45*

Mrs Elena Shatkovskaya, Kenozero NP. *Cultural heritage protection in Kenozero National Park*

Mr Ülar Mark, Union of Architects, Natturi village. *Locals, architects and heritage*

13.00 Lunch in Palmse Tavern

14.00 Keynote speakers

Mr Marti Hääl, Society of Juminda peninsula, Tammistu village. *Community-based heritage protection - challenges of heritage management in Lahemaa NP*

Ms Manana Tevzadze, Blue Shield. *Emergence of Cultural Heritage Civil Society in Georgia. Successes and Challenges of grass roots initiatives in heritage sektor.*

Mr Oliver Orro, Estonian Academy of Arts. *What becomes heritage?*

Mrs Svetlana Belova, Machaon International. *Wooden architecture in cultural landscape: new challenges in modern world*

Dr Victor Yandovsky, State Research Institute for Restoration. *Wooden churches of Kenozero NP and their restoration*

16.30 **Mr Artur Talvik**, Parliament of Estonia, Tapurla village. *Locals and heritage*

17.00-18.30 Coffee break

Round table discussion How to promote community-centered heritage protection?

FRIDAY, 7TH OF OCTOBER 2016

Location: Conference Hall of Palmse Manor

Moderators: Heidrun Fammler (BEF) & Kalev Sepp (Estonian University of Life Sciences)

Keynote speakers

09.00 **Prof Hannes Palang**, Tallinn University. *Sustainable futures for Europe's heritage in cultural landscapes*

Ms Maaria Semm, **Prof Kalev Sepp**, Estonian University of Life Sciences. *Protection and management of agricultural landscapes of Lahemaa NP*

10.30 Coffee break

11.00 Keynote speakers, panel discussion

Mr Jonathan Porter, Countryside. *Landscape character: enhancing understanding and governance of cultural landscapes*

Dr Anda Ruskule, BEF Latvia. *Good practice on viable grassland management- Viva Grass project*

Prof Stephen Hall, University of Lincoln. *Livestock breeds and cultural landscapes*

13.00 Lunch in Palmse Tavern

14.00 Case studies

Dr Rudolf Helbling, St Gallen University, Pastorizia Alpina. *Family companies and sustainable management of cultural landscapes*

Mrs Kaja Lotman, Environmental Board of Estonia. *Management of cultural landscapes in Estonian National parks*

Mr Ennu Tšernjavski, Vanaküla village, Aaviku farm. *Native breeds and forestry - horses*

Mrs Imbi Jäetma, Kolga village, Sae farm. *Native breeds and management of grasslands - sheep*

16.00 Coffee break

16.30-18.00 Round table discussion How to guarantee sustainable management of agricultural landscapes - new challenges

OFFICIAL RECEPTION of the Director General of the Environmental Board of Estonia Andres Onemar
Location: Main building of Palmse Manor

19.00 Welcome speech of the minister of the Environment Marko Pomerants

20.30 Small evening concert of Kärt Tomingas (piano: Külli-Katri Esken)

TRADITIONAL DINNER

Location: Palmse Tavern

19.00 Welcome and dinner

20.00 Folklore Ensemble Lahemaa Rahwamuusikud make us dance

FIELD TRIPS

SATURDAY, 8TH OF OCTOBER 2016

9.30-16.00

BUILT HERITAGE AND LIFESTYLE.

Palmse-Altja-Pedassaare-Võsu-Käsmu-Ilumäe-Palmse

Trip guided by Ave Paulus & Leele Välja

The study trip "Built heritage and lifestyle" will be guided by "Leele Välja, who has done inventory of coastal villages in Lahemaa national park and Ave Paulus who is a specialist of cultural heritage at the Environmental Board of Estonia. During the field trip the main management measures and problems of the built heritage of villages will be discussed. The talks will also be about conservation of the old and valuable architecture and the development of historic village environments as well as how new buildings can be incorporated into the old villages. The necessary building regulations for new developments will also be discussed. Restored building complexes and landscapes will be visited in Palmse manor and Altja village, as well as valuable historical farm complexes at Ilumäe, Laiviku water-mill place, Kaarle farm at Pedassaare village and Pällö farm at Võsu. The impacts of the Soviet era will also be described together with construction issues in Võsu. The day will finish with a lunch at Käsmu Sea Museum and a walking tour in Käsmu, village of captains.

AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES.

Palmse-Võhma (Diana Pärna) - Uuri küla (Imbi Jaetma)-Vanaküla (Ennu Tsernjavski)-Palmse

Trip guided by Kalev Sepp & Kristiina Jürisoo

In Võhma village ancient fields will be visited followed by a tour of a dairy farm together with the owner, Diana Pärna. The possibilities and sustainability of medium scale farming activities in National Park will then be discussed. The next stop will be at the Sae sheep farm where there will be a guided tour led by Imbi Jaetma, followed by lunch. Sae farm has been home of her husband's family for over 200 years. Today they are proud owners of about two hundred sheep originating from 15 different households (12 regions). They use native sheep wool in its natural colours (varying from deep black to bright white) for making numerous knitted or felt items to preserve traditional heritage values.

The last stop will be at the farm of Ennu Tsernjavski. For the last 11 years he had raised Estonian Draft horses and has been testing their use in forest management.

LOCAL COMMUNITIES INITIATIVES.

Palmse - Hara-Tapurla-Juminda-Leesi-Palmse

Trip guided by Artur Talvik & Riin Alatalu



RIIN ALATALU

Riin Alatalu has a PhD in heritage conservation and restoration from the Estonian Academy of Arts. Alatalu has a long and extensive experience of heritage protection from the National Heritage Board, Tallinn Culture and Heritage Department and Ministry of Culture. Alatalu was the member of the Estonian representation in UNESCO World Heritage Committee in 2009-2013. She has run several awareness raising campaigns such as the Estonian National Heritage Year 2013 and European Heritage Days. She is a member and current president of ICOMOS Estonia and vice-president of ICLAFI. She coordinates the EEA grants Manor School programme and is a half-time member of the Estonian Academy of Arts.

PROTECTION OF WORLD AND LOCAL HERITAGES

The UNESCO's World Heritage list includes the objects and places that have outstanding universal value. As time goes by, the selection criteria will become more complex, and most sites actually represent a wider process of human history. However whether these can be reduced to one specific monument is questionable.

According to general opinion, the sites belonging to the UNESCO heritage list, are better protected than any other series of sites. Sites within the UNESCO heritage list are nevertheless influenced by commercial interests, local attitudes and awareness / unawareness, as well as by urbanization and pollution. These factors are related to the concerns of human life in exactly the same way as sites of national or local importance, or even unprotected sites. The presentation will focus on examples taken from the world heritage list. The official and community accountability relationships will also be discussed.



PETER LARSEN

Peter Bille Larsen is a Danish anthropologist with two decades of conservation practitioner and research experience in South-East Asia, Latin America and elsewhere in the world. He currently teaches sustainable development, environmental anthropology, heritage studies and international governance at the University of Lucerne. He has worked for a number of years in the field of heritage and human rights, with a particular focus on global level dynamics in the Asia-Pacific region.

COMMUNITY-BASED HERITAGE PROTECTION

Rights-based approaches are gaining an increasing central role in both natural and cultural heritage conservation theory and practice. The implications of working more directly with human rights issues for conservation practitioners, state officials and local communities will be discussed. These problems will be illustrated by on-going work in the World Heritage field. The presentation will aim to discuss a number of central issues and concerns as well as outlining key challenges and opportunities for practice on the ground.



AVE PAULUS

Ave Paulus has worked in the Lahemaa National Park since 2003. She is the specialist for cultural heritage issues in the Environmental Board of Estonia and council member of Virumaa Museum. She graduated at Tartu University and later obtained a masters degree in Semiotics and the theory of Culture. Her doctoral thesis in Tartu University deals with cultural heritage protection of national parks in Europe. Ave Paulus is member of ICOMOS Estonia, the Heritage Society, the Nature society and the society of Lighthouses. She has edited books and written articles on Heritage protection in Lahemaa National Park and has been involved in making the Lahemaa National Park management plan and cultural heritage protection chapters in conjunction with local people. For her work on the protection of the Cultural Heritage of Lahemaa National Park, she has been given letters of honour from the Heritage Board, the Environmental Board, the heritage Society and local communities.

A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION - LAHEMAA NP 45

This presentation will focus on the holistic conception of the protection of cultural heritage and the practices of empowerment of local communities within Lahemaa National Park. The Park was founded in 1971 for the protection of cultural and natural values in local heritage landscapes involving both tangible and intangible values. This heritage is maintained by 72 living village communities. The Main topic that will be discussed is the protection policies that have been used in Lahemaa National Park in recent decades. The process of defining heritage values will be discussed and how it is maintained via communication between experts, locals, public interest and other interested parties. Local communities are actively involved in defining cultural heritage protection as well as keeping and introducing it. Three concrete cases elaborating the role of village communities in Lahemaa vernacular architecture, agricultural landscape and intangible heritage protection practice will be presented. Examples will be given showing the synergism that can be achieved when uniting local practice and expert knowledge which then gives the best guarantee of maintenance and sustainable development of cultural heritage.



ELENA SHATKOVSKAYA

Director of the Federal State-Financed Institution "Kenozero National Park" under the Russian Federation (RF) Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. Her degree is from Arkhangelsk Forestry Engineering Institute. Elena Shatkovskaya is a member of the RF Ministry of National Resources' Expert Advisory Board on Protected Areas since 2013; Lomonosov Inter-Regional Public Fund Board since 2006 and the Arkhangelsk Committee for Culture's Board since 2007. She is the author and co-author of many articles appearing in scientific and popular scientific journals as well as in periodicals, books, and brochures.

With Elena F. Shatkovskaya Kenozero NP has grown to become Russia's best-performing protected natural site. A flagship in Russia's heritage conservation, Kenozero NP has made excellent progress in interacting with local communities, promoting sustainable tourism, and setting up exhibitions and museums. In 2004, Kenozero NP received a place on the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves, and in 2014 - on the UNESCO Tentative World Heritage List ("Testament of Kenozero" cultural landscape).

CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION IN KENOZERO NATIONAL PARK

The specific nature of Kenozero NP lies in the contribution it makes to conservation and multifaceted promotion of all types of heritage - natural and cultural, tangible and intangible. Kenozero NP is Russia's only park with a museum fund that maintains dozens of books concerning architectural monuments.

The importance of preserving certain historical and cultural monuments goes without saying. But, unfortunately, some of the housing development within the Park's area follows modern designs that are detrimental to the historical structure and image of the villages. While the village planning designs are being adopted, it is necessary to explain to the local communities that traditional architecture is as crucial to the area's image as are local lifestyle, traditions and nature management practices.

The Park has worked for many years towards a revival of folk traditions legacy, folk crafts, rites, fairs and festivals. It is considered that by maintaining the cultural landscape and using its potential, it is possible to achieve the objectives of biodiversity and cultural heritage conservation, as well as boosting the local economy through the mind set and spirit of the Kenozero people.



ÜLAR MARK

Ülar Mark (born 12 February 1968) is an Estonian architect. He graduated from the Department of Architecture of the Tallinn University of Art (today's Estonian Academy of Arts) in 1995. From 1999 to 2002 Ülar Mark worked as the chief architect of the city of Narva. Ülar Mark has worked in the architectural bureau Urban Mark OÜ and in the Allianss Architects OÜ. From 2014 Ülar Mark is architect and co-establisher of Kodasema OÜ. Ülar Mark is a member of the Union of Estonian Architects and from 2006 to 2007 was the chairman of the union. From 2009 Ülar Mark worked as the chairman of the Estonian Center of Architecture.

Notable works by Ülar Mark are the gallery of the Bank of Estonia, the Tallink Spa Hotel and the new railway station of Tartu. In addition Ülar Mark has designed numerous urban and planning projects in Estonia and abroad.

LOCALS, ARCHITECTS AND HERITAGE

Does a person's identity is related to the place? Whether it is possible in today's mobile lifestyle? What is the role of heritage, as it is no longer your own story? Cities are becoming similar, and in the country there are too often Swedish, Finnish and American houses in the same street. Does the fact that tourism develops better when there is a originality, is sufficient motivator?



MARTI HÄÄL

Marti Hääl works as a private entrepreneur and employer in various commercial activities eg energy, mechanical and chemical engineering, retail, business services and horses. Marti has a Master degree in Law. He has also worked for many years as an attorney and vice-chairman of the Estonian Bar Association. Marti's especial interests are the sea and the horses. He operates a voluntary coast guard and is a board member of the Estonian Equestrian Federation and the Estonian Horse management Union. Marti is a farmer in the Lahemaa National Park, the village elder of Tammistu village, a board member of the Society of the Juminda Peninsula and a steering committee member of council of the National Park. He is also a civic activist, especially in matters concerning the cultural heritage of the region.

COMMUNITY-BASED HERITAGE PROTECTION - CHALLENGES OF HERITAGE MANAGEMENT IN LAHEMAA NP

- Material topics need to consult with the community in public meetings, not by written Q&A
- Community members should be invited to participate in the decision making process according to their personal expertise
- With the trust of the community members NP administrator guarantees also best available environmental protection results
- Goal of the community is not to limit the powers of the NP administrator in environmental protection but to balance it with the protection cultural heritage
- Decision making shared with community also shares the responsibility for the results



MANANA TEVZADZE

Manana is a graduate of international master's course in World Heritage Studies at Brandenburg University of Technology. She has over 10 years of experience working in cultural heritage management in Georgia. Her experience ranges from working for the public sector (Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, Department of Culture, UNESCO National Commission and the Georgian National Museum) to private sector (Contemporary Arts center and residence Art Villa Garikula) and academia (Tbilisi State Academy of Arts and Ilia State University.)

She has experience of working as a free-lance consultant for Norwegian Directorate for Cultural Heritage and European Commission for which she drafted a baseline cultural policy report for Georgia within the Eastern Partnership Culture Programme. In recent years she has been actively involved in the non-governmental sector working in ICOMOS Georgia. Since 2013 Manana serves as the chairperson of Georgian national committee of the Blue Shield. She is a certified "Cultural First Aider" having completed ICCROM First Aid in Times of Crisis International course in June 2016.

"EMERGENCE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE CIVIL SOCIETY IN GEORGIA" SUCSESSES AND CHALLENGES OF GRASS ROOTS INITIATIVES IN HERITAGE SECTOR

The presentation introduces the heritage civil society situation in Georgia. It takes a quick look at the historical roots of heritage activism during the Soviet Era and moves on to analyze the emergence of formal civil society organizations since Georgia's independence. The presentation talks more in detail about the more recent developments in the heritage civil society sector, which is characterized by the emergence of grass roots initiatives and campaign groups related to selected sites or urban areas



OLIVER ORRO

Oliver Orro is an architectural historian and specialist of architectural conservation. He has been working in the Cultural Heritage Department of Tallinn and since 2011 he is teaching architectural history and conservation in Estonian Academy of Arts. Oliver Orro has written articles and curated exhibitions on several topics of the history of Estonian Architecture, including military and industrial buildings, wooden architecture and wooden housing areas, soviet period city planning etc.

WHAT BECOMES HERITAGE? HERITAGE CONSTRUCTION AT THE EXAMPLE OF LISTED BUILDINGS IN ESTONIA.

Oliver Orro will analyse the list of protected buildings in Estonia, showing how the buildings that are included among the protected monuments in different time periods are also indicators of changing ideas of architectural and social values, political ideologies and understandings of the role and purpose of the heritage protection. The closer look will be taken to the program of investigation and listing of the Estonian 20th century built heritage, carried out by the Ministry of Culture and Estonian National Heritage Board in recent years. For a long time the decision making in the field of conservation and cultural heritage has been exclusively the task of the experts. Bringing in the user perspective and taking account the interests of different parties such as owners, local communities, local lore and heritage enthusiasts, tourists etc, like it is normal in the contemporary democratic civil society, has made the process of listing buildings as officially protected monuments today much longer and more complicated than it used to be before. 20th century heritage and especially the heritage of Soviet period as well as some building types like traditional farm houses or other kinds of vernacular architecture in the countryside are in many respects even more controversial case than buildings that represent "grate styles" and originate from previous centuries. Dealing with such buildings and built environments the traditional ways of understanding protection and conservation of monuments can quite often turn out to be unworkable and alternative solutions should be generated. Hereby the national parks such as Lahemaa have a growing role in acknowledging, advocating and protecting built heritage, also forming a "diplomatic mission" between the experts and locals.



SVETLANA BELOVA

Svetlana Belova has 15 years experience of work in the development and management of projects focused on the conservation of nature and traditional cultures in order to provide added value to local communities throughout Russia, neighbouring states and Central European countries.

Since 2008 she has been appointed a director of the Association of nature conservation Machaon International (Slovakia) and her work has focused on capacity-building programmes for Protected areas staff (study-tours to EU national parks), promotion of PAs and on development of innovative projects. She has led and worked in several projects.

WOODEN ARCHITECTURE IN CULTURAL LANDSCAPE: NEW CHALLENGES IN MODERN WORLD

The lecture will present a case study from Russia and Ukraine sharing experience from an EU- supported project 'Wooden architecture in cultural landscape: new challenges in the modern world'. The project was initiated to help prevent the destruction of traditional wooden architecture within valuable cultural landscapes in specially protected areas by active intervention and innovative approaches. The project activities were designed to address gradual destruction of the integrity and character of historic villages and traditional valuable settlement structures caused by uncontrolled, and often illegal, construction of new buildings. Three lines of action were adopted and will be presented in the lecture.

1. Development of binding 'Creative Cultural Territorial Plans' which were compiled by professional architects and restorers in cooperation with protected area management and regional authorities to enable integrated effective cultural landscape conservation and management to be carried out.
2. Development of model architectural housing projects of old-style wooden buildings adapted to contemporary standards, safety norms and energy efficiency, so new construction of houses and facilities for people does not contradict the objective of conservation of traditional architecture.
3. Promotional and educational activities (eg exhibitions, publications, lectures and student excursions) as well as raising awareness of the challenges and solutions tested in the project.

The experience from the individual pilot territories of the project in Russia are as follows: National Park Kenozero, National Park Ugra, Nature Park Voskresenskoye and in Ukraine: National Park Synevir and Open-air Museum Tustan.



VICTOR YANDOVSKY

Conservation-restoration architect with 28 years of experience. Head of Architectural Restoration Workshop No. 2 of the Institute for Restoration of Monuments of History and Culture "SpetsProyektRestavratsiya". Member of the Central Council of the Russian National Society for Preservation of Historical and Cultural Monuments. State Expert for the Russian Ministry of Culture statutory historical and cultural review. Associate member of the Academy of Architectural Heritage. Authored over 50 projects for restoration of architectural monuments. Since 1987, involved in the restoration of Kenozero National Park monuments.

WOODEN CHURCHES OF KENOZERO NATIONAL PARK AND THEIR RESOTORATION

One of the last pockets of pristine ancient Rus, the original Russian lifestyle, culture, traditions, landscape and architecture is a remote area of the Russian North located around Lake Kenozero.

Already in the middle of the XVI century there were more than 70 villages in the Kenozero Volost. The Kenozero heroic epos made a huge contribution (83 bylinas, epic narrative poems) into the treasury of the Russian folkloristics.

The architecture of this land is amazing and unique. There are no accidental buildings or structures here, no random choice of location. The severe climate, the traditions of land use, as well as dependence on the waterways for travel – all this makes impact on the development of the villages. Each community is a one-of-a-kind social unit on a one-of-a-kind landscape. All the dominating elevations are occupied by sacred groves with churches and chapels. These serve not only as architectural dominants for each individual village, but also as navigation reference for travel across the Kenozero lake system.

All the monuments of religious architecture in Kenozero National Park (chapels, churches and two unique pogosts, or parish center ensembles – Porzhensky Pogost and the Filippovskaya village pogost) are in their original locations, which is what gives them their unique value. They are not only architectural monuments, but also the focal points that organize the adjacent space and landscape. The original woodworking techniques and the carefully re-created carpenter tools used in XVII-XIX centuries are utilized for conservation and restoration of the monuments of wooden architecture.



ARTUR TALVIK

Artur Talvik, a film maker and stage manager, MP and civic activist. He has been a stage director, producer, operator and screen writer of several films and documentaries. Member of parliamentary commission on rural life and chairman of the commission on anti-corruption practices, member of the parliamentary group of Vabaerakond. Founder and a board member of Juminda Peninsula Society as well as several other citizen groups.

LOCALS AND HERITAGE

Artur Talvik will explain why the term „local community“ upsets him and how he can be released from this disturbing feeling? How can we benefit from communities and what communities benefit from being socially connected? The presentation will be a meditation on substantive and positive communities and on how society could benefit from them, and why communities are inclined to be against everything.



HANNES PALANG

Prof. Hannes Palang is a geographer and is professor of human geography and Head at the Centre for Landscape and Culture, Tallinn University.

SUSTAINABLE FUTURES FOR EUROPE'S HERITAGE IN CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

According to the European Landscape Convention, landscape is an area as perceived by people. During recent decades, instead of an area of everyday hard work, landscapes have turned into playgrounds. On the one hand there is a need to better describe the past in order to maintain the link with the past landscapes that is crucial for future management but alternatively understanding the present condition is necessary for sustainability. In 2005, Marc Antrop called the concept of sustainable landscapes a utopian goal. His argument was that new lifestyles generate new landscapes and landscape change is anyway a chaotic process. Recently, research has been started into cultural sustainability (e.g., Soini and Birkeland 2014). Cultural sustainability has been defined as the fourth pillar of sustainable development, and if so, there are openings for research into the interrelationships between the four pillars. Research is also needed into how culture can be understood as a necessary foundation for meeting the aims of sustainable development in the first place.



MAARIA SEMM, KALEV SEPP

Maaria Semm has MSc in Environmental Protection. Currently she is leading a landscape management course in Estonian University of Life Sciences and in recent years has been involved in national projects researching land use changes in Estonian national parks. Kalev Sepp, is a geographer, works as a professor of landscape management and nature conservation at the Estonian University of Life Sciences (EMU). He is head of PhD and MSc studies in environmental science at EMU and also head of the Scientific Council of the Institute of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. He was a Vice-President and elected Councillor (2004–2012) of the International Union for Nature Conservation (IUCN). He is a member of the EU Horizon 2020 Programme Committee for Environment (including climate change).

PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL LANDSCAPES OF LAHEMAA NATIONAL PARK.

The presentation will provide an overview of historical land cover change in Lahemaa NP. For the analysis of historic land use change, developments will be presented that occurred between 1900 and 2000 using land cover maps from different periods. This study shows that, compared with the beginning of the 20th Century, the landscape of Lahemaa NP has become more enclosed. During 100 years land use in 93% of the forest land area stayed the same but by contrast only 21% of the grasslands remained spatially stable. The major changes in the national park land use included the expansion of forest into abandoned grasslands and conversion of grasslands into arable land.

At the same time the forest and grassland patches have fragmented and the borders have become more gradual. Landscape diversity of arable land has decreased: the number of field patches has decreased and the average area of field patches has increased. The results of the study allow zoning the landscape into natural (old-forests and wetlands) and cultural (landscapes affected by agricultural). It is also possible to estimate the proportion of heritage landscapes accurately and the degree of preservation village by village.

As the forest cover has increased during the past hundred years, it has become necessary to value and preserve the well-maintained open cultural landscapes in the National Park. The database of land cover provides the necessary data for making decisions related to restoration and the definition of priority areas for conservation activities.



JONATHAN PORTER

Jonathan Porter is a landscape ecologist with 20 years' experience of landscape research, assessment and planning. He is a co-founder of Countryside, a transdisciplinary company, combining the creative skills of a communications agency with the scientific knowledge of an environmental consultancy. Jonathan is current president of ialeUK (International Association for Landscape Ecology) and a member of the committee of the European Association for Landscape Ecology. He is a trustee of the Ecosystems Knowledge Network, a member of the Valuing Nature Programme Coordination Team and a co-founder of Oppla, a new European community and knowledge marketplace for nature-based solutions.

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER: ENHANCING UNDERSTANDING AND GOVERNANCE OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

Landscape characterisation is an integral part of landscape protection, management and planning in the UK, following a tradition that developed in the early 1990s and reinforced by the ratification of the European Landscape Convention in 2006. Landscape Character Assessment and Historic Landscape Characterisation have been carried out at national, regional and local scales resulting in complex overlapping spatial frameworks of landscape types and areas. National Character Areas are an accepted framework in England for landscape monitoring, and for landscape quality objectives to enhance cultural landscapes, biodiversity and delivery of ecosystem services. At a sub-regional scale many studies have been carried out to support land-use planning and land management decisions. The Landscape Strategy for the Peak District, the first UK National Park, integrates different perspectives on cultural landscapes, recognises and communicates the considerable variation across the park and provides an important tool for protection of the special qualities of the landscape. Landscape characterisation is being applied more widely at a community level following the adoption in the Localism Act of 2011, which gave communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area through the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan. At all these different scales characterisation can support landscape governance by broadening debates from a focus on dominant issues such as housing development, flooding or renewable energy. Technology now allows greater integration of characterisation with local knowledge and other disciplinary perspectives while supporting wider engagement in landscape governance.



ANDA RUSKULE

Anda Ruskule is geographer and one of leading experts in the Baltic Environmental Forum - Latvia. She has PhD in Geography, researching in the field of landscape ecology. She has many years' experience in working with nature conservation issues in ecosystems, maritime spatial planning and more recently – ecosystem service assessment. Currently she is leading LIFE GRASSSERVICE project in Latvia as well as involved in several international projects, including LIFE Viva Grass, Horizon 2020 project ESMERALDA and Baltic Scope.

GOOD PRACTICE ON VIABLE GRASSLAND MANAGEMENT- THE VIVA GRASS PROJECT

The area of semi-natural grasslands in the Baltic States has considerably decreased due to estrangement of people from traditional rural life styles and changes in agricultural practices. Land abandonment in parallel to agricultural intensification or production of energy crops has led to the loss of grassland biodiversity and ecosystem services. The LIFE Viva Grass project aims to support maintenance of biodiversity and ecosystem services provided by grasslands, through encouraging ecosystem based planning and economically viable grassland management. One of the project activities involved comprehensive evaluation of past experiences and current practices in grassland management. For this purpose, the project has carried out a survey of the projects dealing with grassland management in European countries. In addition, as well as organised study tours to UK, Sweden, Germany, Austria, Slovenia and the Baltic States to learn about good practices, opportunities of income diversification, alternative use of grassland biomass and grassland restoration practices have also been investigated.

The good practice examples of grassland management investigated by the project show that the solutions lie in multi-functional use of grasslands, diversification of income and building of co-operation networks within local communities. Currently maintenance of semi-natural grasslands is ensured by the interest of nature conservation authorities and NGOs and availability of subsidies. However, opportunities and benefits provided by grasslands should be better used to make grassland management more sustainable and less dependent on subsidies. Grassland management restricted to nature conservation objectives does not work – only economically viable landscape structures are long-lasting.



STEPHEN J.G. HALL

Stephen J.G. Hall is Emeritus Professor of Animal Science at University of Lincoln, UK. His PhD (1989) is from Cambridge University. His research has been in animal behaviour and ecology, farm animal welfare, livestock biodiversity, traditional livestock systems, and landscape ecology. He is vice-chairman of the Chillingham Wild Cattle Association.

LIVESTOCK BREEDS AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

Livestock are the agents by which people converted pristine environments to cultural landscapes, but remarkably little academic attention has been paid to the current roles of specific breeds in these settings. Discussion of the cultural significance of livestock breeds does not appear to have a theoretical framework, and most reports are case studies. After considering the definition of “breed”, I examine the significance of distinct breeds in extensively grazed wooded landscapes, pasture-based commercial systems, communal systems and nature reserves, in the UK. Particular reference is made to the Chillingham cattle, the Jersey cattle of Jersey Island, North Ronaldsay sheep, and horse and cattle breeds used in conservation grazing. Implications for policy are reviewed. Practitioners of conservation grazing should consider which breeds of livestock to use. Policy for central support of these genetic and cultural resources needs models for prioritization of particular breeds, and of historically and culturally important flocks and herds. Breeds without clear function in modern agri-food systems, and breeds subject to genetic admixture from elsewhere, need special consideration.



KAJA LOTMAN

Graduated from the University of Tartu as a biologist. She has worked in nature conservation since 2000. She holds the positions of vice-director of Matsalu NP, regional head of State Nature Conservation Centre (Hiiumaa region), regional head of the Environmental Board (Hiiumaa region) and advisor in nature conservation at the Environmental Board. She leads the working group of national parks in Estonia

MANAGEMENT OF CULTURAL LANDSCAPES IN ESTONIAN NATIONAL PARKS

National parks are located in different landscape regions of Estonia. Lahemaa NP is intended for the protection coastal landscapes of Northern Estonia; Karula NP, for the protection of the hilly moraine landscapes of Southern Estonia; Soomaa NP, for the protection of the mire landscapes and floodplain landscapes of transition zone of Estonia (Estonia intermedia); Vilsandi NP, for the protection of the coastal landscapes of the Western Estonian archipelago; Matsalu NP, for the protection of the characteristic biotic communities of Western Estonia and of the natural and cultural heritage of the Väinameri Sea region.

Management of cultural landscapes is largely combined with measures for conservation of semi-natural habitats within Natura 2000 network, and is based on the relevant national guidelines for management and restoration of relevant habitat types as well as management plans for the national parks in question. In some cases, spatial planning within the municipalities also fulfils a role.

Restoration of the semi-natural habitats is based on national funding and includes measures such as the cutting of scrub (in some cases also stump removal), topping of high overgrown grass, erecting fences and other similar measures that precede resumption of mowing or grazing. Regular management of semi-natural habitats in Natura 2000 areas is included in the Rural Development Plan. It includes appropriate grazing of pastures and mowing of meadows, with removal of the hay, after an agreed pre-determined date. The transport of grazing animals to the islands is also supported.

Landscape measures include opening up views, management of the old parks and alleys (for example Palmse in Lahemaa NP), and conservation of old trees. There is also control of the building development and other activities with visible impacts in order to contribute to landscape conservation.



ENNU TŠERNJAVSKI

Ennu Tšernjavski is aged 64 years and is a local person. After high school he worked as a builder on a collective farm and also in an agricultural business involving grain driers. In 1989 his grandparents' farm was returned to him. He raised sheep, pigs, and animals for meat. From 1994 he led the Kuusalu department of the forest company Sylvester. After 2002 the sale to the Stora Group Ensole he had the chance to buy back shares. For the last 11 years he had raised Estonian Draft horses. His family owns Aaviku farm Ltd.

NATIVE BREEDS AND FORESTRY - HORSES

Presentation will discuss more how national park, forest management and traditional Estonian animal breeds can exist together for their mutual benefit.



IMBI JÄETMA

Imbi Jäetma is educated as a philologist but also acts as a crisis psychologist. Her home is in Sae farm village at the western edge of Lahemaa National Park which has belonged to her husband's family for over 200 years. With her husband they have managed the farm almost 25 years. They are dedicated to finding Estonian indigenous domestic animals, preserving and disseminating the message of their importance through various training sessions, information days and the media. The farm has a flock of over 200 head of the Estonian native sheep, 5 maremma abruzzi sheep dogs and 20 Estonian native hens.

NATIVE BREEDS AND MANAGEMENT OF GRASSLANDS - SHEEP

The presentation will focus mainly on Estonian Native sheep and on their role in helping to preserve cultural landscapes in Lahemaa National Park. During the two hundred years that the family has lived on Sae Farm, there has always been a flock of sheep kept on the farm. These sheep are not only to maintain the quality of the fields, pastures and forest, but also to provide family with wool, skin, meat and bones for everyday life needs. Imbi started looking for Estonian Native Sheep in 2004. In 2005 they brought the first sheep found in Tali county to their farm. Today they are proud owners of about two hundred sheep originating from 15 different households (12 regions). They use native sheep wool in its natural colours (that varies from deep black to bright white) for making numerous knitted or felt items to conserve the local traditional heritage. "Where did our grandmothers get wool for socks and mittens"- our native sheep know!"



- 1 Park-Hotel Palmse
- 2 Centre of Lahemaa National Park
- 3 Palmse Manor Main House
- 4 Palmse Manor Conference Hall
- 5 Palmse Manor Guesthouse
- 6 Palmse Tavern

50m