

ENCA IG Sustainable Land Use and Agriculture –

Suggested illustrative examples to bring to life Europe's long-term Rural Vision (January 2021)



1. Nedre Dalalven River Landscape Biosphere Reserve, Sweden

Caption:

Land use priorities are being shifted to create a better balance between pasture and forest in the [Nedre Dalalven River Landscape](#) Biosphere Reserve in Sweden. These reserves have achieved their results by connecting local initiatives to national and international strategies and connecting people with nature. Collaboration between, authorities, landowners and entrepreneurs with grazing animals has led to restoration of the open cultural landscape and the benefits they provide – water regulation, fodder production, a more attractive landscape for local people and visitors, and high biodiversity value.

Photograph

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:cf9da96-3633-4a09-b1e2-a5791c8831b2#pageNum=1>



For further information

Elias Regelin

elias@nedredalalven.se

2. Life to Grasslands, Eastern Slovenia

Caption :

Threats to natural capital have been countered and nature restored across the landscape of Eastern Slovenia through the [LIFE TO GRASSLANDS](#) project which aims to build a better future based on preserved nature through cooperation, understanding, consideration and direct interventions. The project has tackled issues such as: land abandonment, intensive use, fragmented ownership, low levels of awareness of the importance of conservation to restore nature, helping them with more sustainable management of these important grasslands through a range of

support measures including free use of mountain mowers, trailers for moving livestock, farm management plans and the establishment of a collective trademark to add value to the products from the regions dry grassland and tall orchards – milk meats, fruits herbs and honey.

Photograph

To be sourced

For further information

Hrvoje Teo Orsanic

hto@zrsvn.si

3. Organic production and Regional products, Austria

Caption:

Agriculture is being transformed across the mountainous landscapes of Austria with support for organic farming and Regional Products. The cooperative 'Bioalpin' is supporting small-scale agriculture under certified organic cultivation through its brand '[Bio vom Berg](#)'. Around 600 farms are benefiting economically; helping to preserve the small-scale agriculture of the Tyrol and, the cultural landscape which has been shaped by the long tradition of mountain agriculture. The Hohe Tauern National Park is developing the link between nature and the environment, tourism and, agriculture with the development of '[National Park Hohe Tauern Regional Products](#)' "National Park Hohe Tauern Regional Products". 50 products are now available in National Park tourism partner businesses across the Tyrol and Carinthia.

Photograph



© I. Oberleitner



© M. Deweis



© NPHT/Rofner

For further information

Elizabeth Schwaiger

elisabeth.schwaiger@umweltbundesamt.at

4. Supporting extensive land management in a cultural High Nature value landscape, Hesse / Thuringia, Germany

Caption

Threats to the extensive management of the nutrient poor, high nature value, grasslands of Werratal with Hoher Meißner and Kaufunger Wald, are being mitigated through a focus on culturally important role of shepherding. High numbers of shepherds have maintained a diverse range of ecosystem services and played an important role in maintaining habitat connectivity across this unique cultural

landscape rich in biodiversity. The economics of shepherding is now leading to the abandonment of this important practice. The 'Sheep Shape Landscape' project seeks protect biodiversity and the cultural landscape by integrating support for sheep grazing with promotion of the role of shepherding in the: marketing of nature / shepherded products; promotion of nature compatible tourism; provision of information and; increasing social awareness and education to foster more responsible behaviours.

Photograph



School class visiting a shepherd (photo: © Marco Lenarduzzi)

For further information

Andreas Krug

Andreas.Krug@BfN.de

5. Addressing national rural policies and climate emergency, North Wales

Caption

A farm in North Wales is securing its long term future by addressing the challenges set out in Welsh Government's Natural Resources Policy and Climate Emergency declaration. The adoption of environmentally friendly farming requires more organisation and planning and is delivering results. Soils are tested to plan liming and fertiliser requirements, correct soil compaction and improve water infiltration. The wider diversity of plants in the herb-rich swards has increased resilience to pests, disease and weather extremes by providing greater drought tolerance. Erosion has been reduced in the upland boggy areas of the farm by grip blocking, watercourses have been fenced-off to reduce diffuse pollution. Several groundwater-filled ponds have been created to feed separate cattle watering points. Grazing patterns have been changed to improve financial viability - sheep numbers have been reduced whilst the suckler herd of Welsh blacks has been increased. Trees have been planted to help screen noise and provide biodiversity value and areas of

ancient oak woodland are benefiting from winter stock scarifying the ground, aiding regeneration.

Photograph



© John Brown (NRW)



© Geraint Davies

For further information

John Browne

John.Browne@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk