Field assignment Lesvos Summer school: N2000 area Skala Kallonis

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Mytilini, September2012
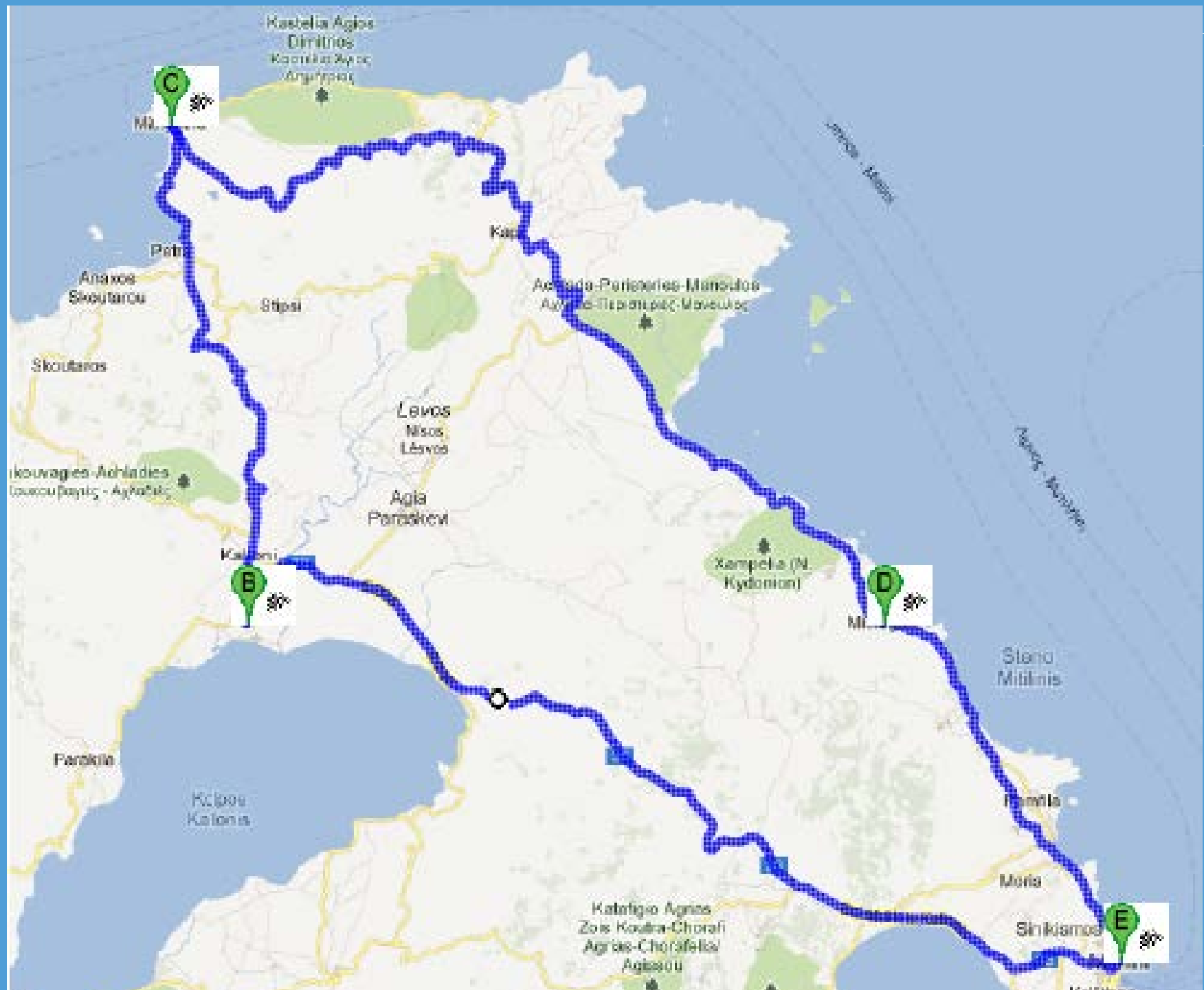
Field exercise - contents

- Introduction – purpose exercise
- What are main features landscape?
- What can we map? Describe? Quantify?
- Work plan

Introduction

- Skala Kallonis is a N2000 area: it is protected for its habitat and rich birdlife

- Every year thousands of birdwatchers come to this area to see birds, in spring

- Local economy is not much aware of this quality, so

    - There is a risk of destruction of the N2000 area and its landscape quality

    - The opportunities for development are not fully realised

A proper landscape assessment is required, to:
1. Protect valuable landscapes
2. Develop areas which are suitable for tourism

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The study area

The focus is on the area around the river inflow into the Bay, the settlement and it's an inland area

Field exercise

- What are main features of the landscape?
  - Open, stony fields, partly overgrown
  - Orchards
  - Land abandonment
  - Grazing of livestock
  - Scattered houses
  - Uncontrolled building
  - Delta from two rivers, draining in the Bay
  - Wetland, of antropogenic origin (salt pans) with high biodiversity
  - Tourism infrastructure
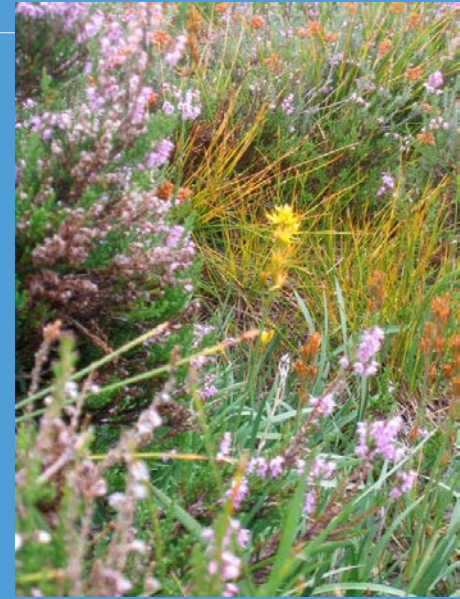
Field exercise

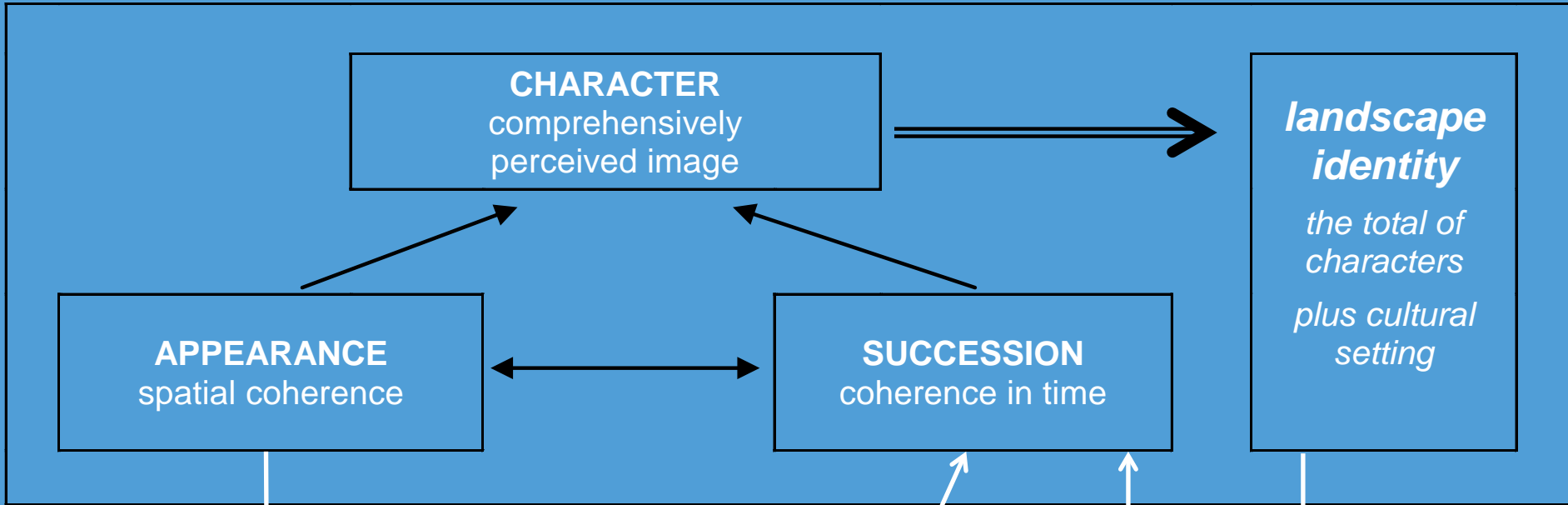What can we map? Describe? Quantify?

1. Land use – categories: orchard/crop/urban/infrastr./grassland/forest/grazng
2. Naturalness –scale 1-3 (natural/semi-nat./anthrop.)
3. Openness – scale 1-5
4. View (from centre) – optical cones, viewing angle
5. Dark/light, moist/dry, cold/warm
6. Parcel size (0-10ha, 10-50, 50-100, >100ha)
7. Legibility of the landscape (space, time) (complexity? Scale 1-5?)

Steps in landscape observation

CHARACTER
comprehensively
perceived image

landscape identity

the total of characters

plus cultural setting

APPEARANCE
spatial coherence

SUCCESSION
coherence in time

Recording

mapping and recording
physical phenomena in
standardised way
(indicators to allow
reading the landscape)

Interpretation

recording derived
information
(interpretation criteria)

Impact assessment

specific
measures

Cause-effect
relationships

well-prepared checklist

objectives

vulnerability
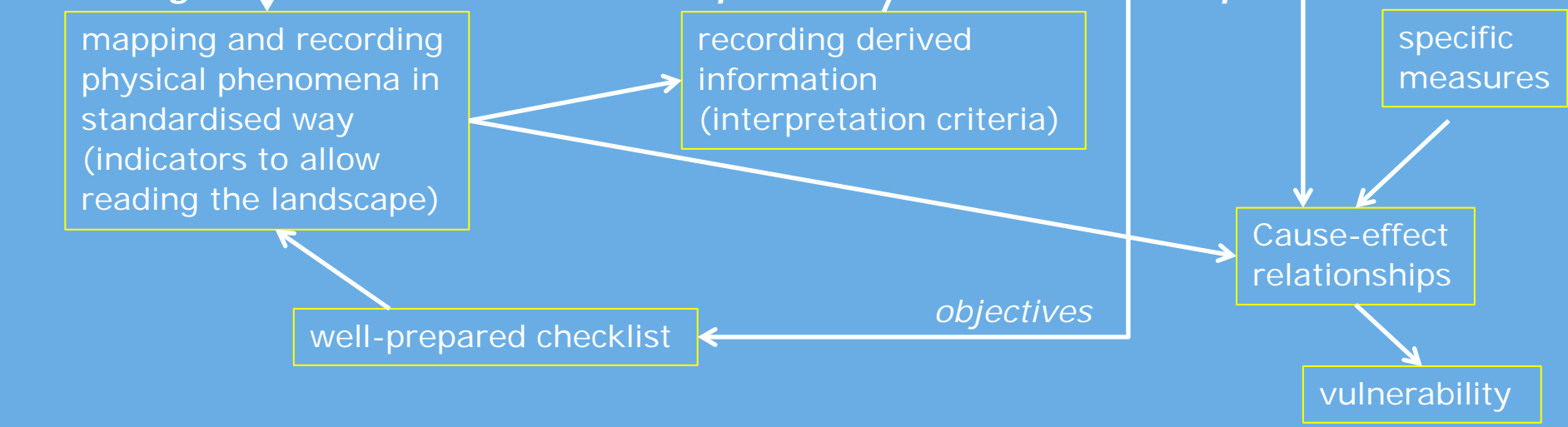
Field exercise

- Test the map approach in 4 groups (30 minutes)
- Discussion, adjustments (20 minutes)
- Mapping of the area (2 hours)

- Discussion results: next week Mon/Tuesday?

Field exercise - Result
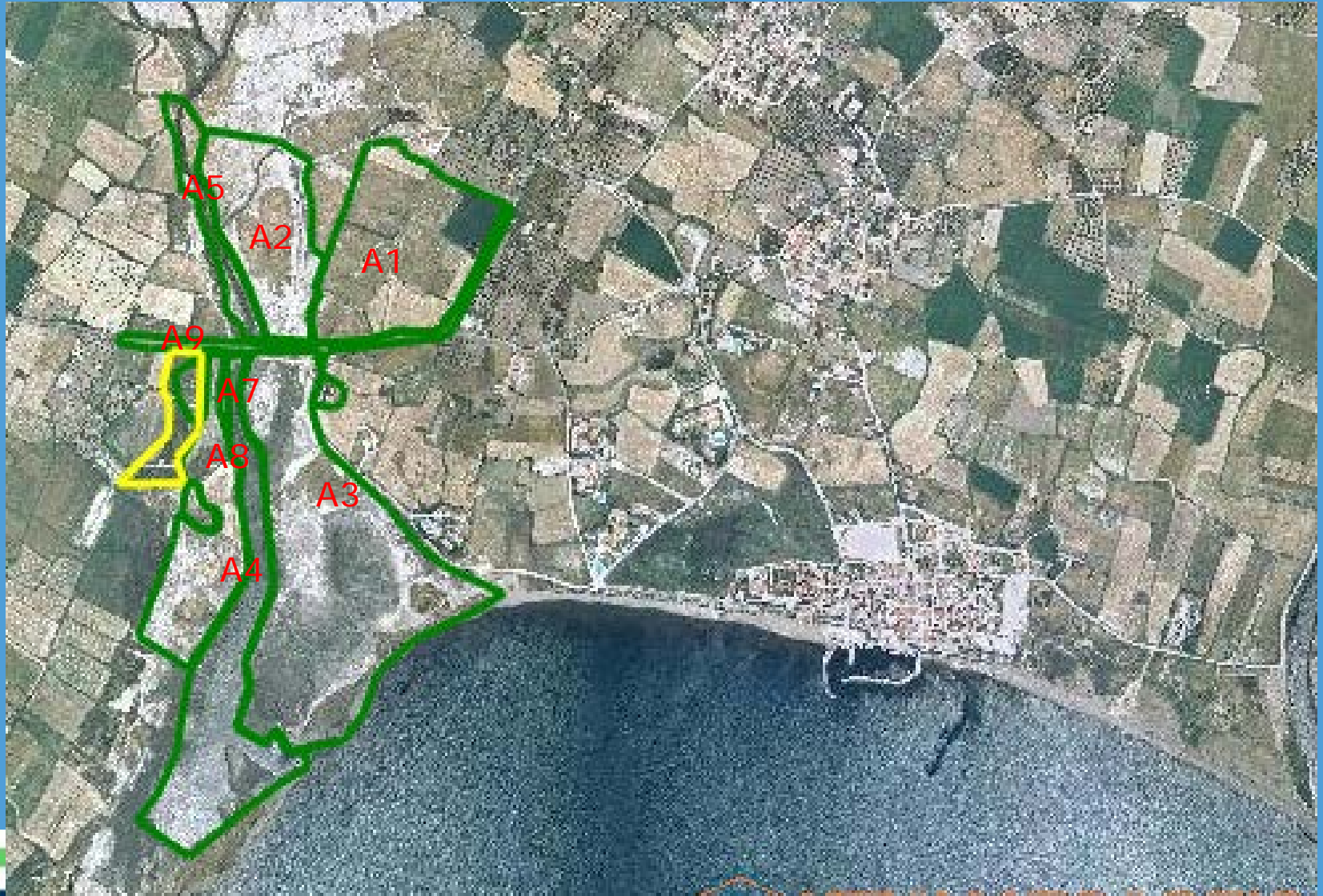
Field exercise - Result

Field exercise - Result

Field exercise Skala Kallonis Lesvos
September 22nd, 2012
Summer School University of the Aegean
'Landscape in a Changing World'
GROUP C : Merit, Theano, Petranta

C4: Grassland, Palm plantations, Built-up area

C3: Built up area

C2: Built up area, Grassland, Garden (googlemaps is outdated)

C1: Built up area

Field exercise - Result

	Mapping Description Quantification of Landscape Features																
	Parcel Code Number :	**B1**	**B2**	**B3**	**B4**	**B5**	**B6**	**B7**	**B8**	**B9**	**B10**	**B11**	**B12**	**B13**	**B13a**	**B14**	**B15**
1	**Land use categories**																
	Orchard (1)* , Crops (2) , Grass land (3) urban (4) infrastructure (5) Palm plantation (6), Beach (7) Forest (8)	1	2	5	2	2	2	2	2	3	(1) & (3)	4	4	4	4	(1) & (2)	1
2	**Naturalness**																
	Anthropogenic (1) , Semi –natural (2) , natural(3)	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
3	**Openness**																
	Open (1), Half -open (2) ,Half-closed (3) , closed (4)	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	2	2	2	2	3	2
4	**dryness**																
	Wet (1) Seasonal wet (2) dry (3)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
5	**Parcel size**																
	<1ha (1) , 1-10 ha (2) 11-50 (3) 51-100 (4) * 1ha=10 stremata=10*1000 sq.m=10000 sq.m	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
6	**View from the center of the parcel**																
		(250°)	(250°)	(60°)	(200°)	(250°)	(280°)	(250°)	(100°)	(150°)	(30°)	(60°)	(60o)	(60o)	(60o)	(30°)	(30°)
7	**Complexity**																
	Scale from (simple =1)...... to ...... (complex =5)	2	1	4	1	1	1	2	3	2	2	(3) - (4)	(3) - (4)	(3) - (4)	(3) - (4)	3	2
8	**Perception**																

Field exercise – observations, conclusions

1) Assessing a landscape is more complex than you would expect!

2) It is important to select landscape units which are homogeneous, they can be a complex of fields, as long as they are similar in features which are assessed. Try to describe the features for the whole landscape unit.

3) Try to collect data as 'objective' as possible! Describe before the field work your parameters, as well as what you will fill in, and descriptions (the 'key').

   1) Avoid very subjective descriptions

   2) 'objectify' those features which are less objective, through e.g. use of photographs, e.g. what is a 'simple' or 'complex' landscape

   3) Very detailed classes (e.g. 1-10) make results more arbitrary

Field exercise – observations, conclusions

4) Some aspects can be 'objectified', by combining different parameters. E.g, landscape quality is very subjective, and may result in a lot of discussion. However, if you combine objective criteria, such as 'land use' (olive orchards), 'naturalness', and 'pollution', you can identify the valuable landscapes

5) The objectivity of the features which were mapped differ, some are more subjective, e.g. feelings, naturalness, or complexity.

6) Experience of the observers and knowledge of the area also defines the result, e.g. as seen with wet or dry areas, or the parcel size.

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Field exercise – observations, conclusions

7) After the first day of the field work, review your features that are mapped, and adjust if necessary the 'key' or classes which are used. In this case, we had a large variety in the size of land units, and number of areas assessed; this could have been avoided by better feed-back after testing.

8) It is quite common to have several field teams to do an assessment. To check the quality of the assessment and to harmonise the results, you can select one site which is assessed by the different teams separately, after which the results are compared and discussed, to come to a harmonised result.

9) Not all collected data is useful for the landscape analysis. Be critical on the results, leave out what is not reliable, too subjective, or not meaningful.

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10) Some data which was not collected here, mentioned by the group, are: **character of the place, uniqueness, quality, land use change, Pollution**. As mentioned, some are very subjective, others are hard to assess, or can be derived from e.g. historical maps of land use. Quality, as mentioned, can be derived from a combination of other features. **Pollution** would still be a useful additional criteria for evaluation of quality of the landscape.

Class exercise – 2 (Thursday)

- Think of what you learned yesterday:

    - Principles of European Landscape Convention

    - Participation of people

Physical:

    - Resilience of the ecosystem

    - Direct impact on the landscape

    - Indirect impacts

Class exercise – 2 (Thursday)

QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

- Identify where the valuable areas are (note: define what is valuable!!!)

- What is the type of tourism you would develop here?
    - What kind of infrastructure is required?
    - What additional measures?
    - Where are you situating the facilities (map!)

- Are there additional measures (preferred or required) for the landscape?

Class exercise – 2

- Each group presents in maximum 10 minutes

- Be creative in presentations!

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Field exercise

- Prepare answers on questions: 1.30 hours
- Presentation and discussion (at 10.45 hours)
- Close exercise (11.30 hours)

Thank you!

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