Application Dossier
October 10 - 2017

ANNEX 4 CRITERIA FOR THE GEOPARK LANDSCAPE MAP
Criteria for the "Geopark’s Landscape Map" related to Areas and Units of Regional Level Landscape

This paragraph explains the definition of the "Geopark’s Landscape Map" represented in Scale 1: 100,000, concerning what is described in the Dossier on "Landscape". It clarifies that the same Geopark’s Landscapes relate to homogeneous areas of fruition, identified by morphological influences and opportunities for the enhancement of geological and cultural heritage, following regional higher planning.

The Park’s Plan, on the other hand, has its own scientific definition of "Landscape Unit" elaborated with the "Landscape Ecology" approach, at an informative level comparable to the Uptr scale of the Regional Territorial Framework. Therefore, for the relevant and necessary details of the Park’s Plan, we refer to Table 2_Unity of Landscape and Table 3_Ecotopes of the Current Planning of the Aspromonte National Park http://www.parcoaspromonte.gov.it/pianificazione/.

The Aspromonte Geopark’s Landscapes join the method and definition of the Landscape Areas and Units, defined in the TOMM III Atlas of the QTRP, an instrument adopted and approved by the Regional Council with deliberation no. 134 of 01 of August 2016. The Atlas of the Territorial Regional Landscape Areas (Aptr) has a cognitive and proactive function with the aim of integrating all the present components through a direct or indirect impact on the development of the territory: from planning and landscape policies to those of a cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic nature.

The Atlas bases its construction methodology on three essential elements:

1. Concreteness: understood as a useful tool for territorial planning, it must contain pragmatic data and not just academic studies, shared and with the participation of inhabitants.

2. Elasticity: The instrument must conform to the needs of the different territories of Calabria, thus activating an "open" approach to reading and programming strategies.

3. Innovation: To introduce new elements, such as intangible landscapes, which are not quantifiable but depend on quality factors that require more sensitivity. Defining the intangible as a value moves attention also to the immaterial site of building landscapes: those cultural, historical, literary, artistic values as elements which the population identifies with.

Within the Atlas of the landscape, the Calabrian territory is examined using a scale of progressive "improvement" according to 3 levels. From the macroscale (a) constituted by the Landscape-Territorial Components (coast, hill-mountain, river-fiumare), through the intermediate scale (b) constituted by the Territorial Regional Landscape Areas (Aptr), up to the microscale (c) where within each Atpr, the Territorial Landscape Units (Uptr) are being identified.

The perimeter of the Aptr and the Uptr is the result of an integrated interpretation and assessment, which contribute to distinguishing the identity and future vocations of different elements such as the historical-cultural features, the environmental and ecosystem aspects, the typology of settlements, the dominant morpho-typological features of the landscapes, the perceptive identities of the landscapes, the presence of indicative transformation processes, the identification of territorial vocations as a trace of the historical phases of the sites.
The perimeter is not considered as a rigid boundary. It is instead a practical tool for determining and understanding not only the dynamics affecting Aptr and Uptr but also, and above all, the relationships and similarities that bind each Aptr to the surrounding territory.

As a consequence, two ways of interpretation, as to the method of definition, have been developed:

- the morphological-geographic-environmental reading that led to the determination of Aptr with a prevalence of physical-environmental dominance;

- the historical-structural study that has identified the relationships between human settlement and the environment in the various historical phases, also in this case by identifying rules, permanence, and dominance, defining Aptr characterized by particular socio-economic and settlement dynamics.

The first level (a), of macroscale, provides landscape analysis regarding systems of regional morphological components, aimed at identifying homogeneous landscapes. The articulated structure of the territory allows defining complex physiognomic concepts following the identification of emerging elements - the coastal system, the mountain-hill system, the river-fiumare system - which establish the distinctly recognizable morphological and geographic structure in the Calabrian territory.

The second level (b) reading at the intermediate scale identifies in the Calabrian territory 16 Regional Territorial Areas (APTR). Starting from the consideration of landscape and territory as interdisciplinary elements in constant transformation, in which material and immaterial characters continuously interact, APTRs are considered as figures that determine the reading and programming of QTRP. They are "complex systems" that link the long-term co-evolutionary (environment and settlement) factors and components of the territory and represent a space palimpsest through which it is possible to read and interpret the territory or to direct conservation, reconstruction or transformation.

The third level (c) determines on a micro-scale the Territorial Regional Units of the Region (Uptr) within each Aptr, considered as systems strongly characterized by identity, historical-cultural and landscape-territorial components, delineating future vocations and shared strategic scenarios. The Uptr are of such amplitude and characteristics to make the perception of a territorial and landscape system attractive, generating and enhancing resources of different nature. There are 39 Uptr within the Calabrian territory by putting the idea of polarity / attraction coinciding with the "territorial talent" as the primary parameter, referring to possible different themes and types of resources.

The “Geopark’s Landscape” are Geopark’s Specific Units directly influenced by two levels of Landscape Atlas Scale: the intermediate scale (b) consisting of the Territorial Regional Landscape Areas (Aptr) and microscale (c) consisting of the Territorial Landscape Units (Uptr), comprised within Atpr. As a result, they relate to homogeneous areas of fruition, defined by morphological-cultural influences and opportunities for the enhancement of the geological and cultural heritage, under the superordinate planning.

Concerning the overlapping of the Landscape Units Map, indicating the Landscape Units mentioned in the Dossier, refer to the Appendix “Landscape Map of the Geopark” at 1: 100,000 scale. Further on the Landscape Scheme of the Geopark is shown. It represents the specific Geopark’s Thematic Units, to which Areas and Landscape Units of the Superior Planning are related.
Geopark’s Landscape

Aspromonte Geopark

AREAS AND UNITS OF REGIONAL LEVEL LANDSCAPE - QTRP Regione Calabria
Within the area of the Geopark, there is a total number of 6 Territorial Regional Areas (Aptr) and 11 Territorial Landscape Units (Uptr), as shown below:

**Aptr 3 The Plain of Gioia Tauro (“La piana di Gioia Tauro”):**
- Uptr 3a The Plain of Gioia Tauro.
- Uptr 3b “La Corona” of the Plain of Gioia Tauro.

**Aptr 4 The Mirage Lands (“Terre di Fata Morgana”):**
- Uptr 4a The Mirage Strait (“Stretto di Fata Morgana”).
- Uptr 4b The Violet Coast (“Costa Viola”).

**Aptr 5 The area of the Greeks of Calabria**
- In the “Grekanica” Area the Territorial Landscape Units (Uptr) coincide with the Regional Territorial Areas (Aptr).

**Aptr 6 “La Locride”**
- Uptr 6a Low “Locride”.
- Uptr 6b Upper “Locride”.

**Aptr 15 “Le Serre”**
- Uptr 15a Eastern “Serre”.
- Uptr 15b Western “Serre”.

**Aptr 16 The “Aspromonte”**
- Uptr 16th Eastern “Aspromonte”.
- Uptr 16b Western “Aspromonte”.

For the specific consultation of the individual Aptr and Uptr refer to the "Tomo 3 - Atlas of the Aptr" of the Regional Territorial Landscape Framework, which can be consulted on the official site of the Calabria Region at: [http://portale.regione.calabria.it/website /portaltemplates/view/view.cfm?3904](http://portale.regione.calabria.it/website /portaltemplates/view/view.cfm?3904)