

# LANDSCAPE POTENTIAL FOR TOURISM FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF CULTURAL ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN THE TERRITORY OF THE LOCAL ACTION GROUP LVA

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## INTRODUCTION

Cultural ecosystem services (CES) are defined as the intangible benefits that people can derive from ecosystems [1]. The territory of Local Action Group Lednice-Valtice area (LAG LVA) is characterised not only by its rich natural diversity, but also by historically significant elements such as landscape compositions, cultural monuments and traditional agricultural activities [2]. A large part of the LAG LVA area is covered by the Lednice-Valtice Area landscape complex, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site [3]. As a result, this region attracts a huge number of tourists [2], which may have a negative impact on the conservation of these important ecosystems. Increasing awareness of CES and seeking to incorporate them into planning and strategy development can lead to their protection and conservation.

## AIMS OF THE STUDY

- Identify, map and evaluate the sources of CES in the region LAG LVA.
- Determine the potential of the identified ecosystems to provide CES

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

- Identification and mapping of CES using the Consolidated Layer of Ecosystems (CLE).
- Classification of ecosystems according to the International Classification of Ecosystem Services (CICES). CICES classes were divided into four categories based on common characteristics [4]:
  - Physical interaction (9.1.1.1),
  - Passive observation (9.1.1.2),
  - Educational/research value (9.1.1.3),
  - Cultural/historical/regional heritage (9.1.1.4).
- Define a rating scale of 0-4 to determine whether the ecosystem is used only to provide CES (4), or use as CES is secondary (1-3 according to the level of use as CES) or not used as CES at all (0).
- Assessment of the relevance of CES in terms of their use, provision and management based on expert estimation.
- Calculation of the total value of CES as the sum of the values assigned to the merged categories.

## RESULTS

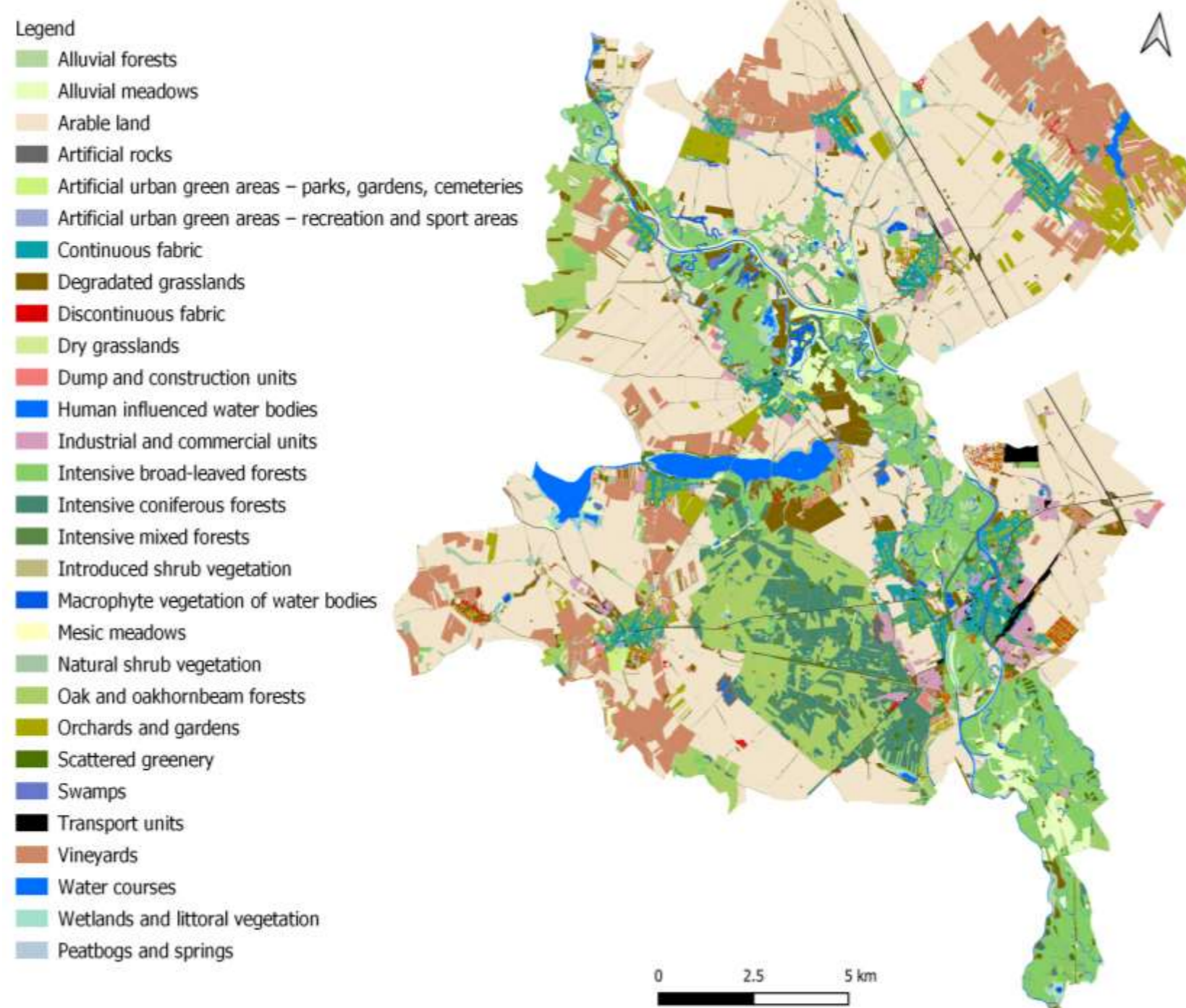


Fig. 1: Consolidated Layer of Ecosystems in LAG LVA

Table 1: Scoring values of the significance of CES according to the significance in terms of and the goal of managing CES resources

Categories of Consolidated Ecosystem Layer	9.1.1.1	9.1.1.2	9.1.1.3	9.1.1.4	Sum
Alluvial forests	3	3	3	4	13
Alluvial meadows	3	3	2	4	12
Arable land	2	2	2	2	8
Artificial rocks	2	2	1	0	5
Artificial urban green areas – parks, gardens, cemeteries	4	4	3	3	14
Artificial urban green areas – recreation and sport areas	4	3	1	0	8
Continuous fabric	2	2	2	1	7
Degraded grasslands	2	3	1	1	7
Discontinuous fabric	2	2	2	1	7
Dry grasslands	3	1	1	1	6
Dump and construction units	0	0	0	0	0
Human influenced water bodies	3	3	3	3	12
Industrial and commercial units	0	0	2	0	2
Intensive broad-leaved forests	3	3	2	3	11
Intensive coniferous forests	3	3	2	3	11
Intensive mixed forests	3	3	2	3	11
Introduced shrub vegetation	2	2	2	2	8
Macrophyte vegetation of water bodies	1	2	2	3	8
Mesic meadows	3	3	1	3	10
Natural shrub vegetation	2	2	2	2	8
Oak and oakhornbeam forests	3	3	2	4	12
Orchards and gardens	2	4	3	4	13
Peatbogs and springs	1	2	1	4	8
Scattered greenery	2	3	2	3	10
Swamps	1	2	1	4	8
Transport units	0	0	0	0	0
Water courses	3	3	3	4	13
Wetlands and littoral vegetation	1	2	2	4	9
Vineyards	2	3	3	4	12

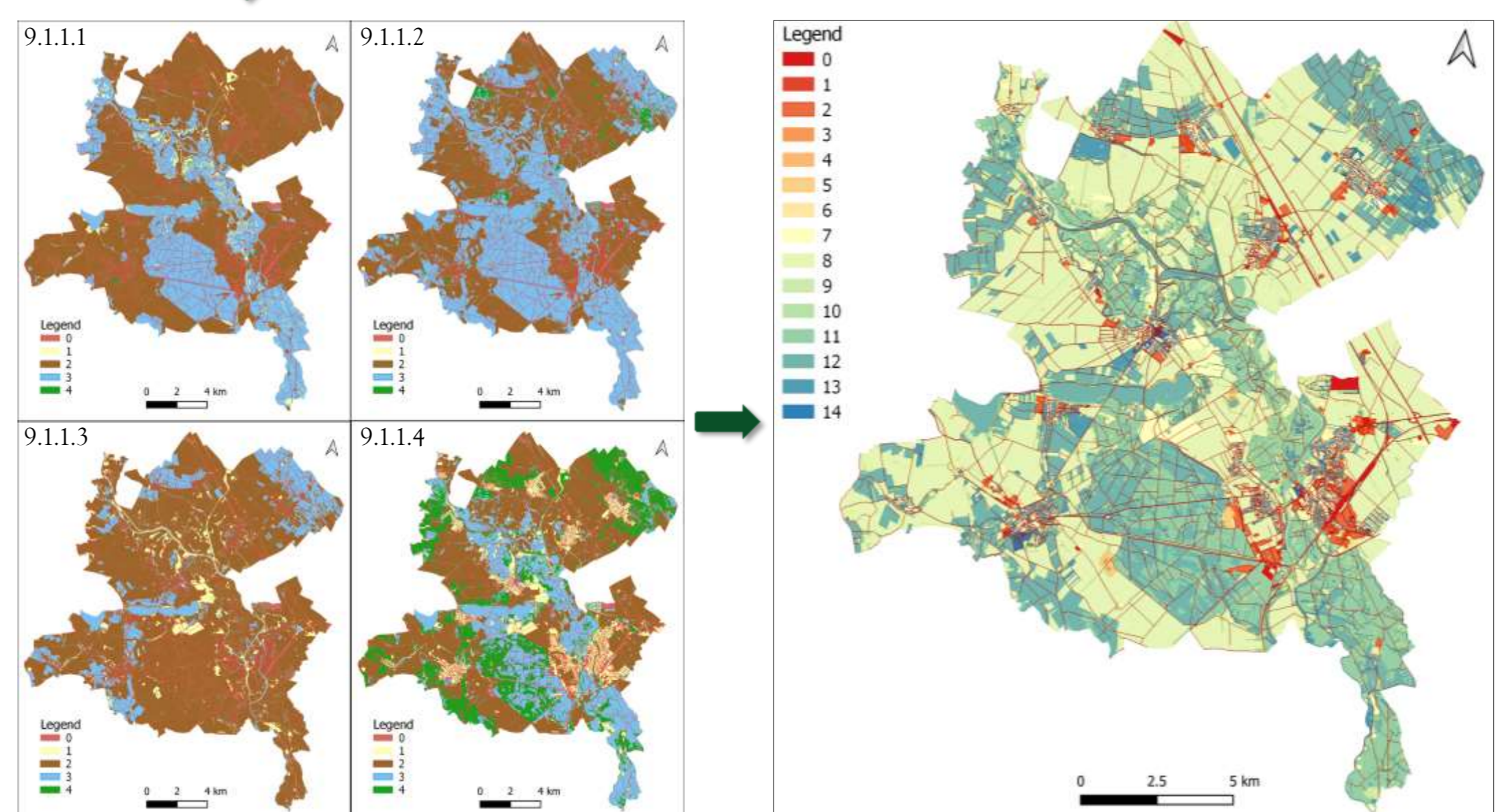


Fig. 2: Value of significance of potential use and management of CES in LAG LVA

Fig. 3: Sum value of merged classes of CES in LAG LVA

## CONCLUSIONS

A total of 29 ecosystem categories were identified. A number of these are important sources of CES. Resources are distributed quite unevenly in terms of their potential to provide CES. This can lead to their degradation due to overexploitation by tourists. The results show that all categories of CES provision values are present, indicating the diversity of the landscape in terms of CES. This variability provides an opportunity to develop different forms of tourism and to target less developed sectors with potential for development. The results can serve as a basis for future decision making on CES resource protection and land use in the context of tourism.

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