

Evaluation of Cittaslow-Slow City Association within the Conservation of Landscape Potential

Elvan ADA^{1*},

Doğanay YENER²

¹: İstanbul

²: İstanbul University, Faculty of Forestry, Department of Landscape Architecture, İstanbul

*: Corresponding Author, elvan.ada@gmail.com

DOI: 10.16950/iujad.338690

Abstract

Developments in technology and science in the last two centuries have greatly increased the effect of human on the nature and to its modifier effect on the landscape. With the impact of globalization, especially in urban areas, the increase in zoning regulations, which allow construction in urban areas, such as shopping centers, mass housing, exemplifies the development of a lifestyle based on consumption, not production. The fast-living, fast-consuming urban people profile has gradually begun to create standard living spaces that are more like each other and loss of distinctive natural and cultural landscape features. The Cittaslow Union (Slow City Association) has emerged in cities that have lost their rural, regional and traditional features, and are moving away from the natural world. Natural and cultural landscapes have an important place within these changes and disappearing features. There are a total of 14 slow cities in Turkey that are members of the Union. In order to become a member of the Union, it is necessary to develop and implement projects to realize the criteria set by the Union. In the current situation, there are a total of 72 criteria in the 7 policy titles of the union.

The purpose of this study is to discuss whether the association has an effective role in the conservation of landscape areas. In this context; Cittaslow's (Slow City Association) environmental policies were examined along with infrastructure policies, urban quality of life policies, and policy criteria for agriculture, tourism and craftsmen. Cittaslow (Slow City Association) criterias, those who have influence on the preservation and sustainability of natural and cultural landscapes, have been evaluated in the context of the slow cities of Akyaka, Halfeti and Gökçeada, which are members of the Union of Turkey.

Keywords: Cittaslow, Slow city, Slow food, Akyaka, Halfeti, Gokceada

Suggested Citation

Ada, E., & Yener, D. (2017). Evaluation of Cittaslow-Slow City Association within the Conservation of Landscape Potential. *Inonu University Journal of Arts and Design*, 7(16). 66-78. DOI: 10.16950/iujad.338690.

Peyzaj Potansiyelinin Korunmasında Cittaslow-Yavaş Kent Birliğinin Değerlendirilmesi

Elvan ADA^{1*},Doğanay YENER²¹: İstanbul²: İstanbul Üniversitesi, Orman Fakültesi, Peyzaj Mimarlığı Bölümü, İstanbul

*: Corresponding Author. fsemerci@gmail.com

DOI: 10.16950/iujad.338690

Özet

Son iki yüzyılda teknoloji ve bilim alanında yaşanan gelişmeler, insanın doğa ve onun uzantısı olan peyzaj üzerindeki değiştirici etkisini büyük ölçüde arttırmıştır. Küreselleşmenin de etkisi ile özellikle kentsel alanlarda, alışveriş merkezi, toplu konut gibi inşaatlara imkân veren imar düzenlemelerinin artışı, üretimden çok tüketime dayalı bir yaşam şeklinin geliştiğini örneklemektedir. Hızlı yaşayan, hızlı tüketen kentli insan profili, giderek birbirine daha çok benzeyen, ayırt edici doğal ve kültürel peyzaj özelliklerini kaybeden, standart yaşam alanları oluşturmaya başlamıştır. Kırsal, yöresel ve geleneksel özelliklerini kaybeden, doğallıktan giderek uzaklaşan kentlerde, hızlı bir yaşam süren kent insanının, kaybettiği bu özellikleri tekrar aramaya yönelmesiyle Cittaslow birliği (Yavaş Kent Birliği) ortaya çıkmıştır. Değişen ve kaybolan bu özellikler içerisinde doğal ve kültürel peyzaj alanları önemli bir yer tutmaktadır. Türkiye'nin birliğe üye olan toplam 14 yavaş kenti bulunmaktadır. Birliğe üye olmak adına, birliğin belirlediği kriterleri gerçekleştirmek için projeler geliştirmek ve uygulamak gerekmektedir. Güncel durumda, birliğin 7 politika başlığında toplam 72 kriteri bulunmaktadır.

Bu çalışmada amaç, birliğin peyzaj alanlarının korunmasında etkili bir rolü olup olmadığının tartışılmasıdır. Bu bağlamda; Cittaslow'un (Yavaş Kent Birliği) çevre politikaları, altyapı politikaları, kentsel yaşam kalitesi politikaları ve tarımsal, turistik, esnaf ve sanatkârlara dair politikaları kriterleri ile birlikte incelenmiştir. Cittaslow (Yavaş Kent Birliği) kriterlerinden, doğal ve kültürel peyzaj alanlarının korunmasında ve sürdürülebilirliğinde etkisi olanlar, Türkiye'nin birliğe üye olan Akyaka, Halfeti ve Gökçeada yavaş kentleri çerçevesinde tartışılarak değerlendirilmiştir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Yavaş Kent Hareketi, Yavaş Kent, Yavaş Yemek, Akyaka, Halfeti, Gökçeada.

Önerilen Atıf

Ada, E., & Yener, D. (2017). Peyzaj Potansiyelinin Korunmasında Cittaslow-Yavaş Kent Birliğinin Değerlendirilmesi. *Inonu University Journal of Arts and Design*, 7(16). 66-78. DOI: 10.16950/iujad.338690.

Evaluation of Cittaslow-Slow City Association within the Conservation of Landscape Potential

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. What is the Slow City Association and its philosophy? What is the movement of Slow food which is its inspiration?

Within the transition of mankind to the permanent settlement, it began to move away from nature and created a new life style. Especially by the advancement of technology, people living in urban areas, has entered into a rapid way of life. During the day, in order to keep up with the fast operating conditions; they began to perform the basic needs such as dining, recreation and socializing, quickly as a mission.

This new system has dragged people on a quest in order to relax, socialize and to be fed with natural products and also has result the request of re-orientation to nature. This request has become a rebellion by Carlo Petrini, at first time in Italian city, Bra in 1989. At that time USA's leading fast food chains had opened a branch in Italy. Petrini defended that it was incompatible with the Italian food culture and lifestyle. After this rebellion Petrini has become the pioneer of this slow Food movement. Slow food has appear as a tool for preservation of local products, traditional cuisine and the cultural sustainability. This movement, which is also the inspiration source of Cittaslow, can be defined as protecting the traditional culture of Europe, against the new world culture based on rapid consumption of USA (Radstrom, 2011), (Petrini,2001).

Culture, including all of the behavior, traditions, beliefs and perceptions of a society or a group, is not just a behavioral phenomenon. The cultural traces of the society can be seen both in the natural environment and in the physical environment. The relationship between the culture and the environment can be considered as a two way interaction. While the communities built their living areas accordance to their culture, the culture is affected and shaped by the conditions of the environment (Altman

and Chambers, 1980).

Cittaslow can be interpreted as an adapted form of Slow Food movement, to the urban living areas. Cittaslow is an association, which has been established with the cooperation of Slow Food's founder and the mayors of Greve in Chianti, Orvieto, Bra and Positana cities of Italy in 1999. Cittaslow is a movement, which aimed the protection and sustainability of local identity, authenticity and distinctive features of Slow cities (URL-1).

The objectives of the association in the charter of 2017 can be summarized as;

- Making life better for everyone living in an urban environment
- improving the quality of life in the cities
- resisting the homogenization and globalization of towns around the globe
- protecting the environment
- promoting cultural diversity and uniqueness of individual cities
- provide inspiration for a healthier lifestyle (URL-2)

Although the union first started to show growth in Europe, today it has become an international collaboration concerning many disciplines together, which has got up to 236 members from 30 countries, far from Japan to USA. Cittaslow union which is started out with the discourse of "International network of cities where living is good" is represented by an orange snail, facing left side and carrying historical buildings (Figure 1). Snail is a slow moving but a progressive scarring living being. This snail logo means; along with development, the historical and cultural heritage that will remain to the next generations has been carried in these cities where quiet lives take place. This logo reminds that the natural life and the urban culture is important for the people and also it summarizes the objectives of the Union (URL-2).



Figure 1. Cittaslow Logo (URL-2).

1.2. What is the criteria for the cittaslow?

Cittaslow is an association that only small cities with a population less than 50,000 can attend. To be a member of Cittaslow Union, it is necessary that developing and implementing projects related to 72 criteria of 7 policy chapters and also developing organization of the cities according to those criteria. The first 4 policies are involving criteria about landscape planning and their sustainability; the last 3 policies are including the social and cultural infrastructure of slow cities, introduction of Cittaslow union and their collaborations.

These policies are;

- Energy and environmental policy: In the context of this policy, there has been criteria for the sustainability of the landscape such as air - water quality conservation, public energy production from renewable sources, energy saving in buildings and public systems and also criteria for the conservation of the natural landscapes such as conservation of biodiversity.
- Infrastructure policies: It includes criteria for the infrastructure of urban landscape areas such as; efficient cycle paths connected to public buildings, planning of eco-mobility as an alternative to private cars, verified accessibility to medical services.
- Quality of urban life policies: These policy contains criteria for the sustainability of an easy and quite life such as; interventions of recovery and increasing the value of civic centers, recovery/creation of social green areas with productive

plants and/or fruit trees, meter cubes of cement in green urban areas, cable network city.

- Agricultural, touristic and artisan policies: It contains criteria such as; development of agro-ecology, increasing the value of rural areas, use of local products, conservation and increasing the value of local cultural events, prohibiting the use of gmo in agriculture, which are directly related with the conservation of cultural landscape areas.
- Policies for hospitality, awareness and training: This policy is for systematic and permanence information for the citizens regarding the meaning of Cittaslow, and supporting for Cittaslow campaigns.
- Social cohesion: It contains; minorities discriminated, multicultural integration, integration of disabled people, children care and youth condition etc. Criteria (URL-2). According to Altman and Chambers (1980), in terms of cultural sustainability, the transfer of beliefs, values and behaviors shared by society plays an important role in the education and socialization of future generations (Altman and Chambers, 1980). Especially this criteria is important for understanding the mission of Cittaslow in the sustainability of culture.
- Partnerships: It includes support for Cittaslow campaigns and activity, collaboration with Slow food and the other organizations (URL-2).

1.3. What is the landscape?

Landscape is defined as, natural and cultural elements in a very variety of characters, located in an environment and that can fit into viewing angle from any point of view (Yücel et al., 2008). So the landscape is a component of each item that the eye can see and the brain can identify from a sight.

Natural elements, morphological and geological terrain, the vegetation cover on this land, fauna and all visual items but except the impact of human are defined as natural landscape (Bayer, 1977). In the Essay of Watermann which is called: Basics of Landscape Architecture, he emphasizes

Evaluation of Cittaslow-Slow City Association within the Conservation of Landscape Potential

that "to be able to understand the landscape, it is true to look out from the door of your home and also it is a broad concept that covers everything where open space exist" (Watermann, 2012).

The areas where people use for various purposes and the areas comprising joint work of people and nature is defined as cultural landscape (UNESCO, 2011). Societies change their environment according to their cultural heritage and they develop land use forms according to their benefit style from nature and soil. There are different classifications of this benefit styles for the cultural landscape areas. In this study, in the framework of Slow city concept, urban and rural landscape areas which are affected by the people in the urban and rural areas next to them, has been identified. Urban landscapes are the living areas which are formed by peoples demand of living together. These are buildings forming the city, urban blocks, traffic system, social facilities, trade and industrial areas etc. rural landscape is identified as the view of natural environment that has been changed because of the activities of people outside the city. These are, agriculture, forestry, recreation, transportation and industrial facilities (Dirik, 2005).

2. THE EVALUATION OF TURKEY'S CITIES AS MEMBERS OF CITTASLOW

The impact of Cittaslow to the landscape potentials of the cities has been evaluated in a case study of Akyaka in Aegean region, Gökçeada in Northern Aegean region and Halfeti in South-east Anatolia region of Turkey.

2.1. Akyaka

Akyaka is one of the resorts in Aegean region of Muğla city in Province Ula. It is located in the north-east side of Gökova Gulf, at the foot of the 1000 m high mountains and at the meeting point of the seas and mountains. The first historical source of the city is from BC 5th century. It is said that the first name of the city was Idyma which is a Carian city. Since the ancient times, that

region has been home to different civilizations. In the Ottoman time this region was a small village but still it has the rich historical traces (URL-3), (URL-4).

In 2001, Akyaka has been included to Cittaslow through its natural landscape features, cultural landscape areas and vernacular layout formed by the traditional land use types. There is a quite life dominated in Akyaka, because of the impact of the natural qualities and the prioritizing behavior of the local people to production and tourism-based economy.

As geological features of the region; the waters coming from the plains and creeks at the east side of Akyaka has dumped to the sea. These wetlands formed by these creeks are home to the flora of reeds, marshes and meadows. Also there has been *Tamarix* sp., *Bambusa* sp. and species from Chenopodiaceae family. Especially *Quercus* sp., *Laurus* sp., *Callistemon* sp., *Nerium* sp., *Pinus brutia*, *Liquidambar orientalis*, *Pinus pinea*, *Cedrus* sp., *Juniperus* sp., *Celtis* sp., *Ceratonia* sp., *Iris xanthospuria* are the dominant taxa of Akyaka flora (Top, 2013).

At the southeast part of the Akçapınar creek; there has been cultural landscape areas consisting of agricultural lands. In these areas, citrus, cotton, sesame, corn and wheat stand out as major agricultural products. On the high and sloppy areas, there has been the olives (Top, 2013). In the local market places; natural products gained from the natural flora are solved. For example thyme, lavender, sage, laurel, st.john's wort, olive. Local people also benefit from those natural products in their traditional food culture (URL-5).

Although Akyaka has a really rich flora and fauna elements, cultivated Eucalyptus trees were planted in the area. And now this area became an important cultural landscape area. 1500 Eucalyptus trees were planted in 1938, to Akçapınar village to improve the marsh areas. This way is 3 km long and now called as "Aşıklar Yolu-Lovers Way" and also so important for our oral cultural heritage (URL-6) (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Aşıklar Yolu- Lovers Way (URL-6).

As well as Akyaka has natural landscape features, also it has indigenous and traditional architectural houses. Nail Çakırhan has designed a house and its garden inspiring from old Ula houses (Figure 3). In 1983 this house has won an architectural award called “Ağa Han Architectural Award”. Since 1983 in Akyaka, the same type of houses are applied and so a landscape specific to that region has been formed (Tuğutlu, 2013), (URL-7) (Figure 4).



Figure 3. Çakırhan House (URL-8)



Figure 4. Akyaka Houses (URL-5)

When we observe the ecological life sensitivity, it is seen that it tried to take the advantage of technological possibilities with an environmental approach. Wastewater treatment facility of municipal is working on

the basis of microbiological treatment (URL-9). Moreover, the municipal recycling project is carried out and information meetings are done on behalf of public participation.

2.2. Halfeti

Halfeti province is located near the Euphrates River, in the north-west part of Şanlıurfa city in south-east Anatolia region of Turkey. Its history begins from the year BC 2000 and it has been home to Hittite, Assyrian, Byzantine and Ottoman Empires. The rocky areas near the Euphrates River, resembles a green belt in Halfeti. Town center is formed from Euphrates River and near the steep rocky slopes which begins 200m from the shore (URL-10).

In 2013, Halfeti has been included to the Cittaslow Union. It is important for conservation of biodiversity and for the introduce and sustainability of natural and cultural landscapes. Halfeti has been an important tourism center because of its natural environment features and abandoned settlement patterns as a result of dam water.

The city was first established as a fortress city around Rumkale (Figure 5). Settlement moved to Fırat coastline which is called “Old Halfeti” because of the loss property of the castle and at the same time Fırat coastal areas became more attractive due to its natural qualities (Figure 6). In 2000, by the water was collected from the Birecik dam, the city near the coastline was flooded by the water. And than the city displaced for the second time and moved to the village Karaotlak which is 8 km east (Bakırcı, 2002).



Figure 5. Rumkale (Ada, 2013)

Evaluation of Cittaslow-Slow City Association within the Conservation of Landscape Potential



Figure 6. Old Halfeti (Ada, 2013)

In order to adapt to the climatic conditions of the region, flat-roofed or roofless buildings made by cut stone is used which is a local material. Just for the efficient use of the water, people created dams. As a result of this, interesting settlement pattern has been occurred which is a good example of the cultural landscape of Halfeti.

Rich soils that has been formed by the alluvium, accumulated on the banks of Fırat river, is also home to rich flora. 381000 square meters of the land is in a quality of agriculture. In half of these lands pistachio, vines and olives are generally grown. In the other half part of the land, grain cultivation is done (URL-11).

The endemic plant of 'black rose' is only grown in Halfeti in Turkey. The most typical example is the Halfeti rose ("Siyah gül" in meaning black rose, Arapkızı); this rose commercialized and sailed in the name of "Louis XIV". The rose is a local variety of *Rosa odorata* named "Yediveren" in Turkish (Özçelik, 2013). In Orvieto city of Italy, there is a rose garden where only rarely cultivated roses from different countries are grown. In this garden "Black Rose" which is an endemic rose species of Halfeti, is planted. This plant has a cultural meaning because it acts as a cultural bridge between the countries.

2.3. Gökçeada

Gökçeada is the biggest island of Turkey. Its on the west point of the country, in the city of Çanakkale and in north-east of the Aegean sea. "Imroz" is its ancient name

and in the Ilyada epic of Homeros, it is said that it was the island of Poseidon, who is the god of the sea (URL-12), (Özdemir, 2012).

Because of the inaccessible and isolated structure of the islands, they are used to be quite places and their population is generally less than the mainland. Gökçeada has been included to the Cittaslow union in 2011 because of its natural landscape features, island culture and indigenous way of life.

Within the advantage of being away from the mainland, it has a rich fauna and flora. In the island there has seen a transitional climate type between the Marmara climate and the Mediterranean climate. Maquis vegetation is dominated in the island. In animal breeding, sheep and goats are conducted in a manner described as free system. Maquis and pasture areas are both functional and economic landscape areas of Gökçeada (Cengiz et al., 2013). There has been 5 ponds in Gökçeada which is the 4th island of the world in terms of the abundance of water resources. In the south part of the island, there is the salt lake, in which place of resort of the flamingos and migratory birds like wild ducks and goose (Özdemir, 2012). The coastal area between the Kaleköy and Kuzulimanı was declared as "Underwater National Park" because of its rare underwater fauna (URL-13).

Island is suitable for organic agriculture, thanks to its isolated structure (Figure 7). And for many years chemical control is not carried out on the island. Gökçeada has chosen as a pilot area for the purpose of making ecological agriculture, by the Ministry of Agriculture. The other cultural value of the island is its traditional food culture, under the effect of Greek population. In these traditional foods, again the local products are used. There is a soap studio in Kaleköy in which the olives, the laurel and lots of herbaceous plants of the island is used (Saygı, 2010) (Figure 8).



Figure 7. Gökçeada agricultural areas (Ada, 2012).



Figure 8. Gökçeada Soap Studio (Ada, 2012)

52 % of the natural and cultural valuable areas of the island is protected as archaeological sites, natural sites and urban sites status (Cengiz et al., 2013). There has been 5 Greek villages on the island which are called; Dereköy, Kaleköy, Tepeköy, Zeytinli and Eski Bademli. The architectural pattern of all these villages are under protection as urban site status. These are typical Greek villages with their cobblestone roads, simple houses from natural cut stone, squares and laundries near the fountains. Although there has been a decrease in Greek immigration and external migration in Gökçeada, which has a dense Greek population until 1970's, the reflections of this cultural structure are observed in settlement texture and land use (Kahraman, 2005).

3. WHAT IS THE IMPACT OF THE CITTASLOW TO THE LANDSCAPE?

The emergence of Cittaslow is simple. As stated in the international charter, "Cittaslow is an international network where living is good". In the Cittaslow Manifest it is stated that "*a new cultural and scientific approach was born: from food to agriculture, from agriculture to the environment, from the environment to dwelling space. Slow town is at the centro, of "slow" lands and a new awareness*" (URL1). Cittaslow, based on the philosophy of Slowness, aims

to protect the unique urban and cultural identity in small towns, to ensure that local production and consumption models are made sustainable by using environmentally friendly and modern technologies, to establish an urban living environment where the relationship between nature and humans will be managed in a balanced way and every citizen and visitor will be happy to live here. At the beginning of the movement, the goal is to provide all of these criteria, even if preservation is not possible, and to serve to preserve the natural and cultural landscape features within local boundaries.

Cittaslow is a new movement whose history is not very old, that has not even completed 20 years. Especially the negative effects of technological and scientific innovations in the last two centuries on urban life, nature and human relations and sustainability have caused this new movement to be discussed by researchers in different disciplines. The common question of these researchers is whether Cittaslow has the potential to be evaluated as a tool in the transformation of these negative effects into positives.

Mayer and Knox (2006) investigate Slow Food and Slow City movements as an alternative approach to urban economic development. Their research is based on the assumption that these movements are a good example of Campbell's "three-E" framework for local sustainability (Campbell, 1996). In Campbell (1996), the concepts of economy, environment and equity, including as much contradictions as being priorities for planners, are defined as the three corners of triangle. Campbell (1996) describes three basic priorities for planners, Economy, Environment and Equity, which also create conflicts in planning, as three corners of triangle. The economic development, planner sees the city as a location where production, consumption, distribution, and innovation take place. The environmental planner sees the city as a consumer of resources and a producer of wastes. The city is in competition with nature for scarce resources and land, and always poses a threat to nature. Space is the ecological space of greenways, river basins, and ecological niches. The equity

Evaluation of Cittaslow-Slow City Association within the Conservation of Landscape Potential

planner sees the city as a location of conflict over the distribution of resources, of services, and of opportunities (Campbell, 1996). In Campbell (1996), it has been pointed out that in practice, finding a balance between economic development, environmental protection, and equity is not easy because their aims are sometimes conflicting with each other. Mayer and Knox (2006) argue that the Slow City movement can eliminate this conflict since it aims at environmental sustainability, but defending only local economic operations, traditional production and traditional land use. At the same time, they note that Cittaslow may be an alternative in providing the "three-E" since the application of social cohesion criteria indicated in the charter may be an essential tool in providing equity. In this context, they have examined Hersbruck and Waldkirch, the first slow cities of Germany, which were included in Cittaslow for the first time outside the borders of Italy, as an example.

Hersbruck features unique cultural landscapes with its towers and castles, city walls and the advantages brought by being a small medieval city center. In addition to these features, natural landscape features with the preserved thermal water resources make up the elements that enrich the city's rural landscape (URL 14). In Hersbruck, local environmental protection groups work in partnership with farmers, city government and small businesses for local traditional land use, and the preservation of pastures and orchards. Local environmental groups have begun these works since the 1980s, but with the introduction of Hersbruck into Cittaslow, these efforts have gained speed and importance. In this town, fruits are picked from fruit trees and shrubberies, particularly apple trees, which are rural landscape components, and these fruits are used in local production. In addition, these landscapes create habitats for birds, insects and wildlife, as well as providing aesthetic value and shades. The fact that the fruits and products of the local farms produced and picked with traditional methods are used again in the local markets and restaurants protects the environment and also contributes to the economy. In addition to training programs run with local farms, children are given training in the

use of local products and preparation of food in schools in order to transfer these traditions to future generations. The execution of these training programs and the creation of job opportunities for local producers and business owners provide the equity (Mayer and Knox, 2006). Waldkirch, another slowcity of Germany, is presented by Mayer and Knox (2006) as an example of Cittaslow's social cohesion criteria. The 'Red House' project, taking its name from the exterior color of a house, which was in very poor condition that has been renovated by the municipality in Waldkirch and transformed to a public space, and has become an important work for social sustainability. Red house has become an important community center as a meeting place for communities, a community kitchen for the homeless, and close by marketplaces where local farmers can sell vegetables and fruit. This area, which enables people of all ages and ethnic groups to establish social networks, allows for environmental protection by promoting the production and consumption of local and traditional products. With the cases of Hersbruck and Waldkirch, Mayer and Knox (2006) have proven that Slowcities can fulfill Campbell's "three-E".

In his study titled "Cittaslow: Producing Slowness Against The Fast Life", Miele (2008) investigated the slowcities of Italy, Orvieto and San Vincenzo, in order to illustrate that each city has its own slowness approach. The city of Orvieto, founded by the Etruscans, has a long and rooted history. Cittaslow's international headquarters is the Orvieto Municipality in Orvieto (URL2). Many traces and remains from its history can be found in the cultural structure of this city, which has a history of 3000 years. These traces manifest themselves in the culture of food and social life. Orvieto's wine, extra virgin olive oil, and local dishes produced with traditional methods are particularly important in describing the slow character of the city. The city has a slow character with the advantage of its history, and it is among the founding cities of the association. However, innovative projects are being developed in order to maintain Orvieto's position in the Cittaslow community and the slowness of life. Practices such training programs for children

where traditional local products and methods are introduced, or summer schools that are based on developing environmental awareness and food culture are carried out. The use of environmentally friendly technologies in the urban infrastructure and the promotion of the use of renewable energy resources are other applications (URL, 15) (Miele, 2008). The city of San Vincenzo has made plans for developing natural and environmental resources in order to join Cittaslow since it is not a historical and cultural city center like Orvieto. San Vincenzo, a small coastal town in Tuscany with white sandy coasts, joined Cittaslow following processes such as the conservation of natural resources and the application of innovative environmental policies. When these two cities are compared, it is observed that they have completely different slowness characters and they are transformed into different and original slowcities by strengthening the strong aspects of their identities (URL, 16) (Miele, 2008).

The research of Mayer and Knox (2006) constitutes an assessment of Cittaslow in terms of urban planning; whereas the work of Miele (2008) deals with Cittaslow through the approach of urban identities. In this study, we have assessed whether Cittaslow can be a model for preserving the landscape potential with examples of Turkish slowcities Akyaka, Halfeti, and Gökçeada.

When the landscape potential of Akyaka is considered, it is seen that it has a rare natural geography and natural landscape features consisting of the rich flora and fauna that this geography hosts. These natural landscape features are attractive features for those who wish to escape from fast urban life and want to live a natural life in order to slow down. For Akyaka to remain a quiet city, Cittaslow membership is an insurance in order to protect these natural properties and for the protective measures to be applied. The continuation of the local settlement texture and traditional architectural features, which are included in the criteria of Cittaslow, is an important factor in the preservation of Akyaka's cultural landscape. In the city, the products obtained as

a result of traditional land use techniques meeting with consumers in the public market or being used in the traditional food culture supported by slow food organizations positively affect the sustainability of agricultural landscapes.

Halfeti is a unique cultural landscape area that can be presented as evidence for the changing effects of human activities on the physical and natural environment performed in order to control nature. The settlement texture that remains beneath the dam waters reveals an interesting landscape. Moreover, the traditional use of land in agriculture for several generations emerges as another form of cultural landscapes. The conservation and sustainability of these natural and cultural landscaping features, which led to the acceptance of Halfeti as a slowcity, will play an important role for the city that has a tourism-based economy. With the projects and programs to be realized in order to realize the Cittaslow criteria, Halfeti will make a name for itself, and this will result in increased socio-cultural welfare and prosperity through tourism. In this way, contributions can be made for the preservation of the natural landscape and for the local people in maintaining their lives in a high quality natural environment.

Production in Gökçeada takes place through the agricultural use of land and the direct sale of products obtained from these lands to the public. In addition, agricultural and related herbal products of the region are also used in the production and sale of local foods, as supported by the slow food movement. When the existence of agricultural lands are considered in terms of maintaining an ancestral form of land use, as well as the way in which products are used and utilized, Gökçeada meets the main purposes of Cittaslow with its impact on the sustainability of cultural landscapes. The development of innovative projects in order to meet Slowcity criteria may create added value in maintaining a high quality life cycle provided by the island's natural and cultural landscape features.

Evaluation of Cittaslow-Slow City Association within the Conservation of Landscape Potential

4. CONCLUSIONS

When the slow cities are evaluated in Turkey, even they are in different geographical regions, it is seen that they all have a rare natural environment. Within these natural landscape features, also their agricultural areas has been attract attention. The products of these agricultural areas are used in the local market places and also in local food culture. That's why these areas are cultural landscape areas in terms of their aesthetic and functional features. The existence of traditional forms of settlement that each city has its own currency as a reflection of cultural values and lifestyles also increases the diversity of the cultural landscape.

The cities selected according to the objectives and criteria of the Slow city, should maintain these properties in order to maintain their existing membership. This requirement has a significant impact on the protection of the natural and cultural landscape. Urban people especially choose to live in these quite cities because of their natural and cultural characteristics. Also the tourists prefer these cities for the same reasons. A life in harmony with the natural environment, the aesthetic landscape formed by traditional land use patterns, local architecture and a physical environ-

ment that ensure the continuity of the local culture and the local architecture, has provides the usage of cities in terms of tourism. Considering that tourism is one of the main livelihood of the inhabitants of the city, providing the continuity of the natural and cultural landscape values is obliged, which makes the city attractive.

In order to have a better quality of urban life, it is necessary to improve the infrastructures that support the ecological life. As it seen at the examples of Turkey's Slow cities, Cittaslow is an important, international communicational tool in order to recognize the cities and landscapes. This union is very important for the attention of competent institutions in case of conservation and sustainable use of natural and cultural landscape potentials. Investments that has been done for the introducing and criteria of Cittaslow providing public participation and awareness of the public, is an important factor ensuring the sustainability of vernacular landscape. Mentioned criteria is an important step against the rapid urbanization movement. It has a philosophy that encourages the preservation of the world landscape heritage and transferring it to the next generations.

REFERENCES

- Ada, E. (2012-2013), Personal Photo Album.
- Altman, I., & Chambers, M. (1980). *Culture and Environment*. California: Wadsworth. Inc.
- Bakırcı, M. (2002). Türkiye'de Baraj Yapımı Nedeni ile Yer Değiştiren Bir Şehir Hal-feti. *Coğrafya Dergisi*, 10, 55-78.
- Bayer, M. Z. (1977). *Peyzaj Mimarisi*. Ankara: Türk Tarih Kurumu.
- Campbell, S. (1996). Green cities, growing cities, just cities? Urban planning and the contradictions of sustainable development. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 3, 296-312. <https://my.vanderbilt.edu/greencities/files/2014/08/Campbell1.pdf>
- Cengiz, T., Akbulak, C., Özcan, H. & Baytekin, H. (2013). Gökçeada'da Optimal Arazi Kullanımının Belirlenmesi. *Tarım Bilimleri Dergisi*, 19, 148-162 <http://www.agr.ankara.edu.tr/journal>.
- Dirik, H. (2005). *Kırsal Peyzaj Planlama ve Uygulama İlkeleri*. İstanbul: İstanbul Üniversitesi Yayınları.
- Kahraman, S. Ö. (2005). Effect of migration on population Evolution and change in Gökçeada. *Coğrafi Bilimler Dergisi*, 3(2), 39.
- Özçelik, H. (2013). General Appearances of Turkish Roses. *Suleyman Demirel University Journal of Natural and Applied Science*, 17(1), 29-42.
- Özdemir, S. (2012). Kırsal Kalkınmada Kırsal Turizmde Yararlanma Olanakları:

- Gökçeada Örneği. *KMU Sosyal ve Ekonomik Araştırmalar Dergisi*, 14(23), 19-21.
- Mayer, H., & Knox, P.L. (2006). Slow Cities: Sustainable Places in a Fast World. *Journal of Urban Affairs*, 28(4), 321–334. http://urizen-geography.nsm.du.edu/~psutton/AAA_Sutton_WebPage/Sutton/Courses/Geog_4020_Geographic_Research_Methodology/Course_Documents/Seminal_Papers_Geography/SlowCities.pdf (Erişim Tarihi: 11.05.2015)
- Miele, M, 2008, 'CittàSlow: Producing Slowness against the Fast Life. *Space and Polity*, 12(1), 135–156, in Taylor and Francis Online, <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/13562570801969572> (Erişim Tarihi: 10.04.2015)
- Petrini, C. (2001). *Slow food: The case for taste*. New York: Columbia University Press
- Saygı, E. (2010). Gökçeada İmbros. İzmir: Gülermat Matbaacılık.
- Radstrom, S. (2011). A Place-Sustaining Framework for Local Urban Identity: an Introduction and History of Cittaslow. *IJPP-Italian Journal of Planning Practice* 90(1).
- Top, B. M., Yolak, U., & Thomas, L. (2013). Gökova Özel Çevre Koruma Bölgesi Akçapınar Azmağdı Dalyan Balıkçılığı Fizibilite Analizi, Çevre ve Şehircilik Bakanlığı, http://dcm.dka.gov.tr/App_Upload/18_Gokova%20Ozel%20Cevre%20Korumu%20Bolgesi%20Akcapinar%20Azmaqi%20Dalyan%20Balikciliqi%20Fizibilite%20Analizi.pdf. (Erişim Tarihi: 18.07.2016).
- Tuğutlu, S. (2013). Türkiye'nin ilk Ağa Han Ödüllü Alaylı Mimarı Nail Çakırhan <http://www.arkitera.com/haber/17037/turkiyenin-ilk-aga-han-odullu-alayli-mimari--nail-cakirhan> (Erişim Tarihi: 11.03.2015).
- UNESCO, 2011. Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention, <http://whc.unesco.org/archive/opguide05-en.pdf> (Erişim Tarihi: 26.11.2016)
- URL-1, Cittaslow Official Web Site <http://www.cittaslow.org/content/association> (Erişim Tarihi: 29.07.2017)
- URL-2 Cittaslow International Charter, 2017 http://www.cittaslow.org/sites/default/files/content/pages/257/statuto_cittaslow_en_12.05.pdf (Erişim Tarihi: 29.07.2017)
- URL-3, Ula Belediyesi, Akyaka'nın Tarihi, http://www.ula.bel.tr/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=162&Itemid=156 (Erişim Tarihi: 14.09.2017)
- URL-4, Çevre ve Şehircilik Bakanlığı, Tabiat Varlıklarını Koruma Müdürlüğü Özel Çevre Koruma Bölgeleri, Gökova Özel Çevre Koruma Bölgesi <http://www.csb.gov.tr/projeler/ockb/index.php?Sayfa=sayfa&Tur=webmenu&Id=7785> (Erişim tarihi: 19.10.2017)
- URL-5, Cittaslow Akyaka, <http://cittaslowturkiye.org/cittaslow-akyaka/> (Erişim tarihi: 29.07.2017)
- URL-6, Milliyet Gazetesi, 2013. Marmaris'in Ünlü Aşıklar Yolunu Fırtına Vurdu <http://www.milliyet.com.tr/marmaris-unlu-asiklar-yolunu-firtina-vurdu/gundemdem/gundemdetay/22.02.2013/1672198/default.htm>. (Erişim tarihi: 16.11.2017)
- URL-7. Akyaka Nail Çakırhan ve Halet Çambel Kültür ve Sanat Evi Katalog 2014, Gökova Akyaka'yı Sevenler Derneği, http://www.akyaka.org/download/2014_katalog_web.pdf (Erişim tarihi: 17.09.2017)
- URL- 8, Nail Çakırhan Evinden birkaç fotoğraf http://www.akyaka.org/cakirhan/odul_evi/odul_evi_tr.htm. (Erişim tarihi: 16.10.2017)
- URL- 9, Akyaka Belediyesi Resmi web sayfası

Evaluation of Cittaslow-Slow City Association within the Conservation of Landscape Potential

http://www.akyaka.bel.tr/akyaka_de-vam_edem_projeler.html (Erişim tarihi: 15.11.2017)

URL-10, Halfeti Belediyesi, <http://www.halfeti.bel.tr/?page=11&id=268>. (Erişim tarihi: 16.10.2017)

URL-11, Halfeti Kaymakamlığı. <http://www.halfeti.gov.tr/tarihce> (Erişim tarihi:19.11.2017)

URL-12, Gökçeada Kaymakamlığı. <http://www.gokceada.gov.tr/genel-bil.html>. (Erişim tarihi: 19.11.2017)

URL-13, Güney Marmara Kalkınma Ajansı 2012. Bozcaada Gökçeada Değerlendirme Raporu https://www.gmka.gov.tr/dokumanlar/yayinlar/GMKA-Bozcaada-Gokceada_Degerlendirme_Raporu.pdf. (Erişim tarihi: 29.10.2017)

URL-14, <http://www.citta-slow.de/index.php/in-deutsch-land/hersbruck/uebersicht>

(Erişim tarihi: 29.07.2017)

URL_15, <http://www.cittaslow.org/network/orvieto>. (Erişim tarihi: 19.11.2017)

URL-16, <http://www.cittaslow.org/network/san-vincenzo> (Erişim tarihi: 19.11.2017)

Waterman, T. (2012). *Peyzaj Mimarlığının Temelleri*. Literatür Yayınları.

Yücel, M., Aslanboğa, İ. &Korkut, A. B. (2008). *Peyzaj Mimarlığı Terimler Sözlüğü*. Ankara: TMMOB Peyzaj Mimarları Odası Yayın No:4.