











The conventional mapping techniques (2 dimensions) is not enough to the properly management of the landscape as a specific resource. Three-Dimensional treatment, multiscale approach, and perspective based on single or multiple point of views are questions that have to be considered in landscape studies.

Conventional tools used for the identification and characterization of landscape only take into account a limited number of spatial variables.







Difficulties to consider the temporal dimension of the landscape

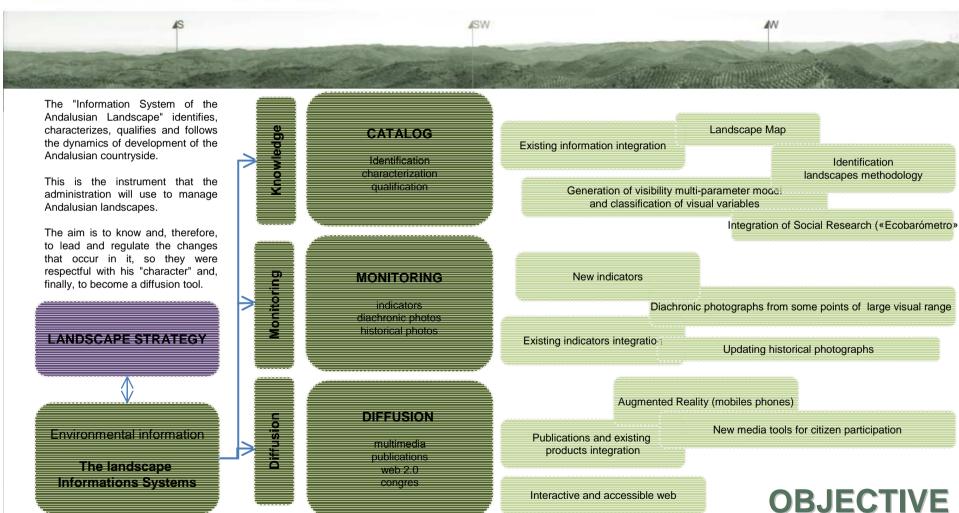
Lack of a specific methodology and terminology for the study and characterization of landscape

THE PROBLEM





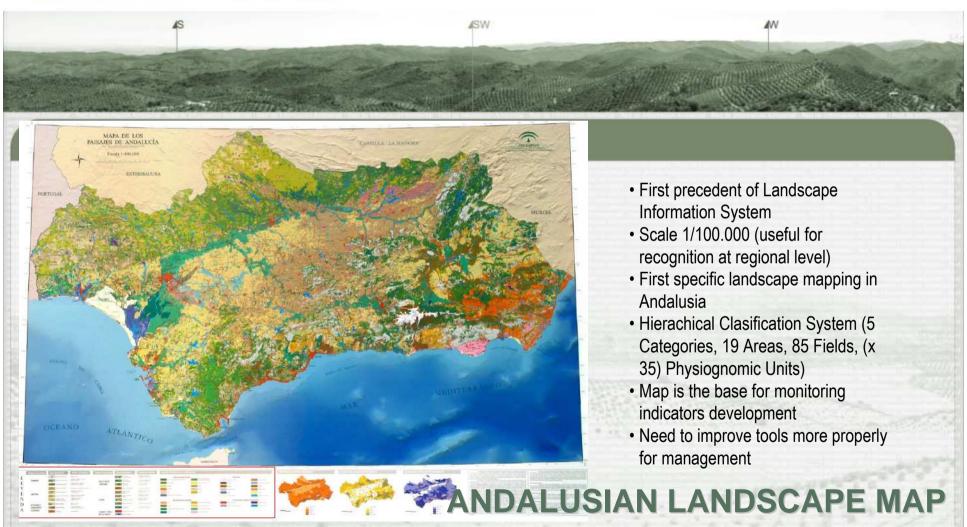














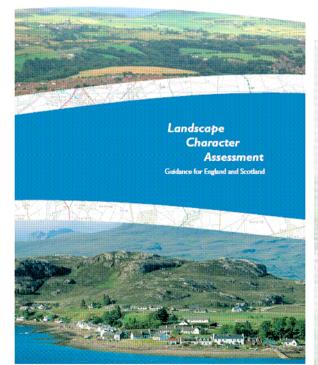












LANDSCAPE CHARACTER ASSESSMENT

Landscape Character Assessment as addressing both the characterization process, involving identifying, mapping, classifying and describing landscape character. It's a methodology produced by "The countryside Agency, UK, 2002.

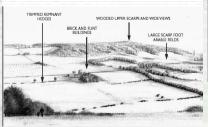
Landscape character assessment (LCA) is the process of identifying and:

- explaining the unique combination of elements and features that make landscapes distinctive
- describing variation in landscape character and using this information to manage landscape change.

Principles.

1. Focuses on landscape character:

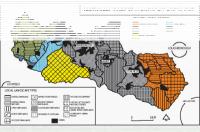
"defined as a distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occur consistently in a particular type of landscape. Particular combinations of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use, field patterns and human settlement create character"



Principles.

2. Characterization is the central tool:

Concerned with identifying areas of distinctive character, classifying and mapping them and mapping their character – concentrating on the differences between areas.



Principles.

3. Can operate as a hierarchy:

- with work at different scales 'nesting' together
- the smaller the scale the greater the level of detail needed.

National / regional scale: identifies broad patterns of variation in character, typically at 1:250,000 scale

Local authority scale: identifies variation in character at a finer grain, usually at 1:25,000 – 1:50,000 scale

Local scale: deals with small scale variation eg within a parish, at 1:10,000 scale.

CATALOG METHODOLOGY







