

Project „Cultural landscapes of mountain and highland river valleys”
supported by a grant from Norway
through the Norwegian Financial Mechanism
in the framework of Polish-Norwegian Research Fund



Cultural landscapes of Western Norway

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Content

- Vegetation zones of Europe
 - Natural vs. Cultural landscapes
- Cultural landscapes of western Norway
 - Landscape development
 - Western landscapes in a national context
 - Coastal landscapes
 - Western fjord and mountains
 - Inner fjords



Summary

The lecture presented the cultural landscapes of western Norway, seeing them in an European and national context. Norway has only 3% cultivated land and since agriculture developed 4000BC natural resources have therefore been utilised extensively, with outfields being of great importance.

In western Norway a combination of resources and areas were utilised, resulting among others in the combined fisher-farmer and the development of the coastal heather landscape. In the fjords and mountains we find traces of wooded hay meadows, extensive summer farming and mountain pastures.

Characteristics of these landscapes and current trends of abandonment and the effects on the landscapes, both aesthetic and for the diversity, were presented.