GRANULAR

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Better knowledge for better rural policies

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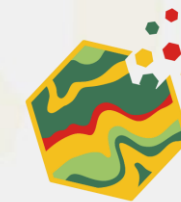
WHY GRANULAR?

80% of the European Union's area is rural and one in every three citizens live in a rural area.

Rural areas are key for the digital and green transitions.
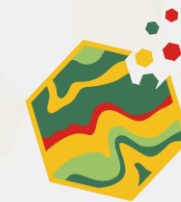
Yet, several challenges lie ahead…

- Rural areas are very diverse, facing different challenges and policy needs
- Lack of relevant data at the appropriate granularity
- Lack of practical tools to align territorial diagnosis with place-based policies

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WHAT IS GRANULAR?

General information

Research and innovation project

Funded by Horizon Europe programme and the UK Research Innovation

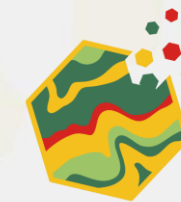**Coordinated by IAMM Montpellier, France**

24 partners

4 years (2022-2026)

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WHAT IS GRANULAR?

« Giving Rural Actors Novel Data and Re-Usable Tools to Lead Public Action in Rural Areas »

GRANULAR

Identify, develop and provide novel data and reusable tools to **understand the characteristics, dynamics and drivers of rural areas** and hence support place and evidence-based policy making.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

To generate and assess **novel rural data** to support decision-making in rural areas.

To conceptualise the **diversity** of features and functionalities of rural areas.

To **engage with actors** across different types of rural areas to collect, analyse, validate and assess data.

To develop **indicators** to better understand trends, threats and opportunities for rural areas.

To contribute to operationalise the **rural proofing** of policies.

To share knowledge and give rural actors **indicators and tools for decision-making** and support just, climate-neutral and inclusive transitions of rural areas.

WHAT IS GRANULAR?

Living and Replication Labs
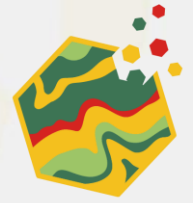
GRANULAR will use **co-creation** and **participatory methods** in 16 pilot territories across Europe to capture the diversity of rural situations from a local perspective

7 LIVING LABS

to co-design, test and validate GRANULAR work

9 REPLICATION LABS

to assess how to replicate the tools and methods in other rural contexts

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HOW GRANULAR?

Our approach

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academic literature

project outputs
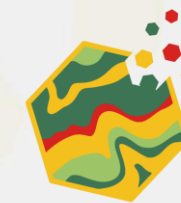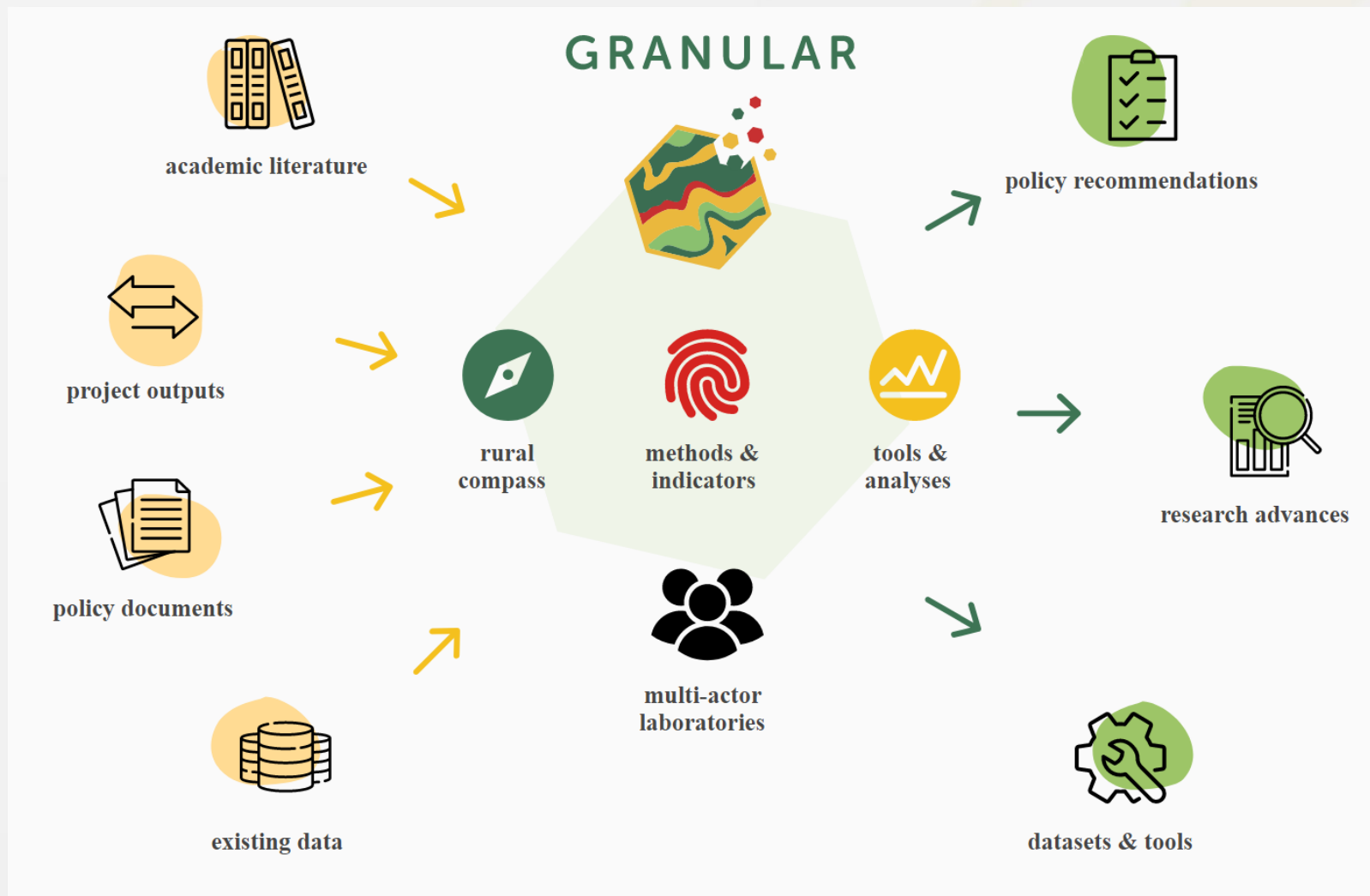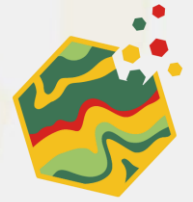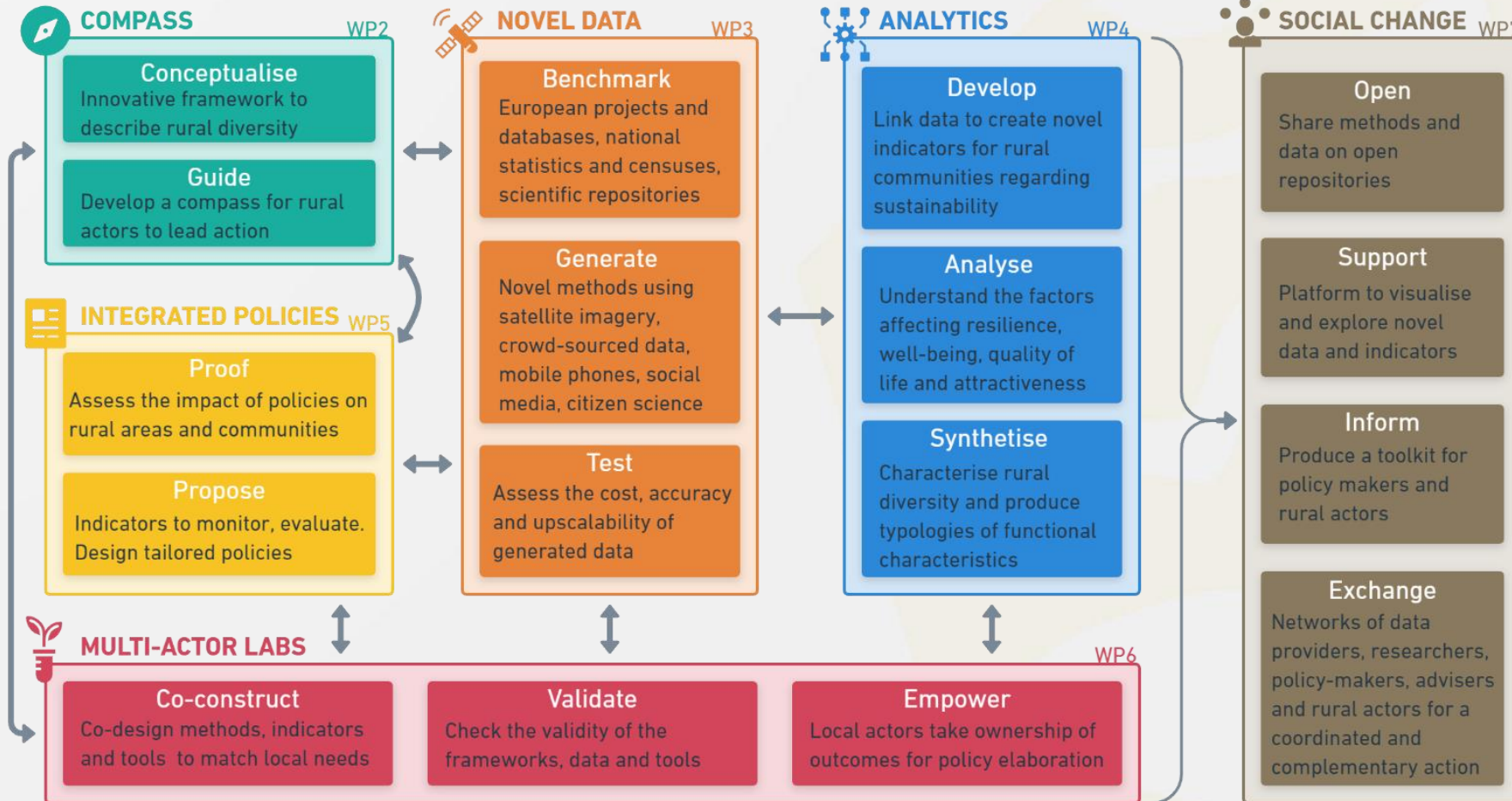
policy documents

existing data

rural compass

methods & indicators

tools & analyses

multi-actor laboratories

policy recommendations

research advances

datasets & tools

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HOW GRANULAR?

Our approach

COMPASS WP2

Conceptualise
Innovative framework to describe rural diversity

Guide
Develop a compass for rural actors to lead action

INTEGRATED POLICIES WP5

Proof
Assess the impact of policies on rural areas and communities

Propose
Indicators to monitor, evaluate. Design tailored policies

NOVEL DATA WP3

Benchmark
European projects and databases, national statistics and censuses, scientific repositories

Generate
Novel methods using satellite imagery, crowd-sourced data, mobile phones, social media, citizen science

Test
Assess the cost, accuracy and upscalability of generated data

ANALYTICS WP4

Develop
Link data to create novel indicators for rural communities regarding sustainability

Analyse
Understand the factors affecting resilience, well-being, quality of life and attractiveness

Synthetise
Characterise rural diversity and produce typologies of functional characteristics

SOCIAL CHANGE WP7

Open
Share methods and data on open repositories

Support
Platform to visualise and explore novel data and indicators

Inform
Produce a toolkit for policy makers and rural actors

Exchange
Networks of data providers, researchers, policy-makers, advisers and rural actors for a coordinated and complementary action

MULTI-ACTOR LABS WP6

Co-construct
Co-design methods, indicators and tools to match local needs

Validate
Check the validity of the frameworks, data and tools

Empower
Local actors take ownership of outcomes for policy elaboration
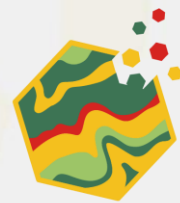
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GRANULAR RESULTS

7 Living Labs and 9 Replication Labs: to co-design tools, data and analyses to guide local decision-making.

Rural proofing: applied to 4 European policies.

Novel approaches for rural data: crowd-sourcing, citizen science, Earth observation, web-scraping, Internet of Things.

Briefs, reports and analyses: on thematic topics, European and national policies, rural proofing.

Rural Compass: unpacking rural diversity to guide public action.

Thematic topics: climate neutrality, socio-economic resilience, food systems, wellbeing, attractiveness.
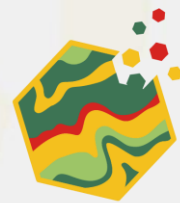
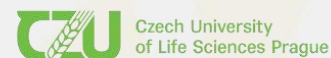**Digital platform and repository:** data and tools at different granularity.

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GRANULAR PARTNERS

THANK YOU

GRANULAR Newsletter

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